

### 3 killed in road accident

AMMAN (J.T.) — A road accident on the Zarqa-Jerash Highway near the town of Balaama on Saturday caused the death of three people and the injury of several others, Jordan Television reported. The accident involved three cars, a Mercedes, a BMW and a pick-up truck, according to Colonel Ahmad Al Rifai, director of the police department at Mafrqa Governorate, who was quoted by the television. Col. Rifai said the Mercedes taxi was on its way to Jerash from Zarqa when it was hit on the side by a BMW car heading towards Zarqa. He said both cars were running at very high speed and the BMW tried to overtake the other car when it hit its side causing its driver to lose control over his vehicle and reel of the road to hit an on-coming pick-up truck. The impact caused the immediate death of the taxi driver and two female occupants sitting next to him. Col. Rifai added. He said the passengers of all the cars sustained injury and, some of them were seriously hurt. Col. Rifai blamed the accident on overspeeding.

# Jordan Times

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### Goulding leaves after visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs Marnack Goulding left Amman on Saturday at the end of a three-day visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Mr. Goulding, who also met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, discussed Middle East developments. In a statement before departure Mr. Goulding said that his talks here were valuable and that he intended to make other visits to Jordan. Mr. Goulding, who was accompanied by his assistant for political affairs Jean-Claude Aime, is currently on a tour of the Middle East to familiarise himself with the situation in the region. He has already visited Lebanon and Israel. Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Tayseer Touqan and other ministry officials were at the airport to see off Mr. Goulding.

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### Cabinet grants JD 79,000 to sports organisations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet on Saturday decided to allocate JD 79,000 to promote sports in the Kingdom. The decision came during a regular session of the Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. The Cabinet decision, carried by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the allocated sum will be distributed among various sports clubs and organisations.

### Li, Mubarak to discuss Gulf war

ALEXANDRIA (R) — Chinese President Li Xianan and Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak will discuss joint efforts to bring the Gulf war to an end when they meet in Cairo on Tuesday, Egypt's ambassador to China said Saturday. Mr. Li arrived in this Mediterranean port city on Friday for a three-day private stay. He flies to Cairo on Monday for a five-day visit. Ambassador Ahmad Abdul Wahab Selim told reporters the two leaders would review attempts to end the Iran-Iraq war, efforts to boost the Middle East peace process and bilateral issues.

### Fahd receives PLO chairman

BAHRAIN (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia on Saturday received Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), who arrived in Riyadh earlier in the day. The Saudi Press Agency reported. It said the meeting was also attended by Saudi Arabian foreign and information ministers and the PLO representative in Riyadh, but gave no details.

### Waldheim papers missing in Vienna

VIENNA (R) — Most of the personal file of former U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, who has been accused of having once belonged to two Nazi organisations, is missing from the archives of the Austrian Foreign Ministry, a ministry spokesman said Sunday. The file is missing for the period from 1945 to 1970, the spokesman said. He repeated a statement made on Friday by Foreign Minister Leopold Grafitz that only a fragment of the file, from August 20, 1970 onwards, was available.

### Soviet deputy prime minister in Peking

PEKING (AP) — The highest-ranking Soviet official to visit China in 15 months arrived on Saturday and told his hosts that the potential for cooperation between the two nations was "enormous." Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Arkhipov was heading a delegation attending the first meeting of the Chinese-Soviet commission on economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation. The Soviet official's visit was part of an improvement in relations that picked up steam in December 1984, when Mr. Arkhipov visited Peking and signed major economic agreements.

## Swedes and world leaders pay final tribute to Palme

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) — Huge crowds of mourners bade farewell to murdered Prime Minister Olof Palme on Saturday after the world's statesmen paid a final tribute to the Swedish leader who spent his life campaigning for peace.

The bells of all the city's churches tolled as 100,000 Swedes stood in near-freezing temperatures to honour Mr. Palme, baring their heads as his simple white coffin was carried past. Many threw roses down as the cortege passed.

The funeral brought together the leaders of a divided world for a civil funeral service in Stockholm's city hall. At the Palme family's request it was punctuated with light music and speeches that stressed hope rather than tragedy.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was placed between East German head of state Erich Honecker and President Samora Machel of Mozambique. Prime Minister Shimon Peres of Israel sat almost behind Iranian Deputy Premier Alireza Moayeri.

Mr. Shultz and Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov began talks at the Soviet embassy immediately after the ceremony as part of a flurry of diplomatic activity on the sidelines of the funeral (Story below).

Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Jordan's Ambassador to Bonn and Stockholm

Swedish officials present at the ceremony did not follow Mr. Palme to his grave.

A huge sea of red trade union banners hung with black crepe swayed through the streets in a tribute from the ruling Social Democratic Party and the labour movement with which all of Mr. Palme's political life had been associated.

The procession passed the ochre-coloured cabinet office from where Mr. Palme governed Sweden for almost 11 of the last 17 years and where he was working only a few hours before he was shot while walking home with his wife on Feb. 28.

As twilight fell, Mr. Palme's coffin was lowered into a grave in a small churchyard almost opposite the spot where he was assassinated. Police kept the public away and only the family and a handful of invited guests were present.

At the graveside, Stockholm Bishop Krister Stendahl, a personal friend of Mr. Palme, read a lesson from the 13th chapter of Saint Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians.

"And though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and though I have all faith so that I could remove mountains, and I have not charity, I am nothing."

On the other side of Stockholm's sveavagen thoroughfare



Olof Palme  
hundreds of mourners gathered at a flower-covered shrine where Mr. Palme fell. A sweet scent of roses filled the winter air.

Police helicopters hovered above the city centre as the funeral procession wound its way along an S-shaped route.

Aside from scores of blue and yellow Swedish flags fluttering at half-mast, it was a grey day in Stockholm — overcast, with grit from the winter's snows underfoot.

Thousands of uniformed and plainclothes police patrolled the city hall and the funeral route (See page 8).

Police are holding a 32-year-old Swedish rightwinger on suspicion of involvement in the murder, but no formal charges have been laid against him so far, and investigators said on Friday that the hunt for the assassin was continuing.

At the world tribute to Mr. Palme before the burial, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi drew a parallel between Mr. Palme and his mother, Indira, who was shot by bodyguards in 1984.

"Is it not ironic that both Indira Gandhi and Olof Palme, who both fought for justice and peace, should have been killed?" he said in a departure from his prepared speech.

## Yamani warns Britain of 'disaster' in absence of cooperation in pricing

By Gordon Brooke-Shepherd  
Deputy Editor,  
The Sunday Telegraph  
Special to the Jordan Times  
and Al Ra'i

ON THE EVE of his crisis meeting in Geneva, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, has warned Britain that unless it cooperates in controlling world prices "disaster lies ahead for which your country would bear the lion's share of the blame."

And, despite the negative responses which continue to come out of London, Sheikh Yamani issued another fervent appeal for Britain to stand alongside, nursing its national interests, and join in the efforts Saudi Arabia is leading to discipline the chaotic energy markets.

The warning and the appeal were made during a wide-ranging exclusive interview I had with the minister at his office in Riyadh. I asked Sheikh Yamani to spell out, in layman's terms, what precisely he meant by his talk of "disaster ahead."

"I mean, quite simply, that in the future the oil that the world now has is enough for a few decades — in your case for less. We must all continue drilling and exploring and searching for alternative sources, and for that we need money, we need revenue or we shall find ourselves without oil," Sheikh Yamani said. "Look, the last two crises of 1973 and 1979 were political, and we could surmount them because we had



Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani

"Surely, I asked, there was more to this doomsday scenario than mere nature, and also something more imminent."

"There certainly is," Sheikh Yamani replied. "We are now facing a very grave situation in some OPEC countries — I will not mention names, but you can probably

resources. But now we face a pure energy crisis for we are diminishing these resources fast. Some fields in the U.S. are starting to close down with a loss already of 1.8 million barrels a day. Those fields are being lost forever, as are some in Canada."

"In your own North Sea, output is declining by 20 per cent a year. Some bigger Texaco fields are shutting down, and at current oil prices, which have gone down by half over the last few months, there will be a question mark over several of your smaller companies by the end of the summer. You must invest and not just extract at any price. I tell you: If you do not take the decision, nature will take it for you."

"(Continued on page 3)

## Mediator returns to Paris with plan over hostage crisis

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The complex hostage crisis in Lebanon stayed deadlocked on Saturday, casting its shadow over the final countdown to French parliamentary elections.

On the eve of polling, there was no fresh news of progress by special envoys trying to secure the release of French hostages held by militant groups here.

Mediator Razah Raad left Damascus for Paris by private jet, saying he would report to French authorities on his bid to save the hostages' lives.

The Lebanese-born physician, who is standing as a right-wing candidate in the elections, said his mission did not cover a four-man French television crew kidnapped a week ago.

A claim issued Friday night by a previously unknown group to be holding the four men further complicated a spate of statements issued by militants over the fate of nine French citizens, missing believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

The "Revolutionary Justice Organisation" said it abducted the team from the Antenne-2 television network a week ago as a warning to Paris to "stop any military intervention in Lebanon."

The statement, delivered to an international news agency here, was accompanied by photocopies of the identity cards of two of the French television journalists seized at gunpoint on the outskirts of Beirut.

Dr. Raad appeared to be concentrating his efforts on diplomats Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine, snatched almost a year ago, and journalist Jean-Paul Kaufmann, seized last May.

Islamic Jihad issued a video film of the three men on Thursday in which they each made moving appeals to France to help secure their freedom.

"It is absolutely necessary that the French government takes a sympathetic interest in our fate and acts as soon as possible," Mr. Carton said.

A ninth missing French national is Lebanese-born Florence Raad, 30, who disappeared in May last year. She is not related to the French mediator.

In Paris, Iraq's ambassador to France brought fresh hopes for the speedy release of three French hostages in Lebanon by announcing that two Iraqi dissidents linked to their plight would be flown from Baghdad to Paris shortly.

Ambassador Mohammad Sadiq Al Mascha'i said on a French radio network that President Saddam Hussein had agreed to return the two to France in a few days.

The shadowy Islamic Jihad organisation last week gave France until Sunday to "recover" the pair, who were expelled from Paris on Feb. 19 in what officials have said was an administrative blunder.

Islamic Jihad, which last week announced the "execution" of Michel Scurat, one of four hostages it was holding, said it would kill a second Frenchman if Paris failed to comply with the ultimatum and obtain the return of Hamza Fawzi Al Kuba'i and Mohamad Hassan Kijar Al Din.

The two Iraqis were reported Saturday to be living with their families in Iraq without any restrictions.

## Iraq reports continued air raids, says Iranian bridge destroyed

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said on Saturday its warplanes and helicopter gunships continued bombing raids on Iranian positions at Fao in Iraq's southernmost corner.

Baghdad radio added that Iraqi naval vessels shelled and destroyed a recently completed bridge near the Iranian city of Abadan on the Shatt Al Arab waterway north of the Fao Peninsula.

Iran indirectly denied on Saturday that its forces lost to the Iraqis recently captured strategic heights northeast of the Iraqi provincial capital of Sulaymaniyeh.

A military communique carried by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Iranians consolidated their "defence lines in the northwestern operational theatre."

The "northwestern operational theatre" was a reference to the Chawra region in the northern sector of the Iran-Iraq battlefield. The Iraqis launched a new offensive on the area on Feb. 24, occupying two strategic mountains and six lesser heights.

Iraq announced on Friday that its forces expelled the Iraqis from the entire Chawra region, wiping out six Iranian brigades and "leaving not a single Iranian soldier on Iraqi soil" in the area.

No other major battlefield developments were reported by either warring side Saturday in the southern front, where Iran launched another offensive across Shatt Al Arab on Feb. 9.

In Doha meanwhile, British Foreign Office Minister of State Timothy Renton said Britain would extend military help to Kuwait if asked in the event of a spillover of the Iran-Iraq war into Kuwaiti territory.

He told a news conference: "Kuwait knows that we are to ask for specific military equipment... or military assistance... we would consider such a request quickly and sympathetically."

In Qatar, he chaired a meeting of British diplomatic heads in the Gulf and Arabian peninsula. U.S. warns Iran, page 2

But Mr. Renton, who was flying from Qatar to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Saturday on the third and final leg of a Gulf tour, said Britain so far had not received any such request.

He said he believed Kuwait was acting with great restraint and circumspection, adding "Kuwaitites the need not to take any steps that could worsen the situation."

Iraq's latest offensive into southern Iraq brought its troops within sight of the Kuwaiti border.

Mr. Renton, who arrived in Qatar from Bahrain on Thursday, said without mentioning Iran that Britain deplored the latest offensive in the 5½-year-old war.

"Our view is that we consider any extension of the war into neighbouring countries with very, very great concern indeed," he added.

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## Shultz, Ryzhkov fail to reach accord

STOCKHOLM (R) — Top-level U.S. and Soviet officials ended lengthy talks on Saturday in apparent stark disagreement on key issues currently dividing the superpowers.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, reading from notes agreed with Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, told reporters the two sides had "very frank talks" — the usual diplomatic term for blunt disagreement.

Mr. Ryzhkov stood grim-faced at Mr. Shultz's side during a brief joint news conference at the Soviet embassy, where the two met for nearly two hours, twice as long as scheduled.

The Soviet official said the Kremlin expects Washington to make the next move on a nuclear test ban and other problems.

Mr. Shultz said he and Mr. Ryzhkov came to no conclusions on either of the main topics they discussed — reducing stocks of intermediate nuclear weapons and the questions of nuclear tests.

Mr. Shultz also suggested there had been no progress on setting a date for a second summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"We both expect this discussion will continue," Mr. Shultz said, but refused to elaborate.

Another round of high-level talks after the Palme memorial service brought together West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and East German Communist leader Erich Honecker.

But there was no word on whether they set a date for Mr. Honecker to visit Bonn, a planned trip that is reported to have incurred Kremlin displeasure.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres briefly met Mr. Shultz, Dr. Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand. The U.S. secretary also had a meeting with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, representing an array of black African government officials and anti-apartheid leaders.

Summing up his meeting with Mr. Ryzhkov, Mr. Shultz said they "didn't really focus" on an expected meeting this spring between himself and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to work out details of the 1986 Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

## Thousands defy S. African regime at mass funeral

GUGULETU, South Africa (Agencies) — Thousands of mourners burying seven suspected guerrillas shouted and sang support for the African National Congress (ANC) on Saturday, defying official restrictions on the funeral and attacking the government in speeches.

"The black has become like an angry elephant," Methodist priest Wesley Mabuza told the cheering crowd in a sports stadium in Cape Town's Guguletu township.

"Our patience is exhausted. We have been waiting too long... we are being killed every day."

Police kept watch on the gathering from a helicopter and armoured personnel carriers stood ready at nearby police stations.

The seven dead, whose coffins were draped with ANC flags, were killed by the police in an ambush in Guguletu on March 3.

A local magistrate, citing security risks, placed several restrictions on Saturday's funeral, including a ban on pamphlets, banners and political speeches.

All the restrictions were defied by the crowd, who waved banners of the ANC, which is sworn to the violent overthrow of South Africa's white-dominated government, and the South African Communist party, both outlawed organisations.

"Urban the ANC — forward to socialism," read one placard.

A priest, Jerry Mossa, told the crowd: "The people of this country will be free."

## Soyuz docks with space station

MOSCOW (R) — Two Soviet cosmonauts on Saturday docked their spaceship Soyuz T-15 with the orbiting station MIR two days after blasting off from earth, Soviet Television said.

Mission commander Leonid Kizim, 44, and engineer Vladimir Solovoyov handled the final approach themselves, rounding the station to latch onto the main docking port at 1338 GMT.

Cosmonaut Alexander Alexandrov, one of the reserve team, told an interviewer at mission control centre in Kazakhstan that the operation went so smoothly that the two craft came together several minutes ahead of schedule.

"The crew fulfilled their task brilliantly," he said.

Mr. Kizim and Mr. Solovoyov are the first cosmonauts to visit MIR, which is due eventually to become the core of a permanently-manned giant space laboratory.

The Kremlin gave unusual publicity to Thursday's launch of Soyuz, which came just over six weeks after the deaths of seven U.S. astronauts in the shuttle Challenger disaster.

The lift-off from the Baikonur launching-site was announced in advance and shown live on television.

In a further display of confidence, Soviet space controllers announced the docking on Saturday in a live broadcast from mission control centre.

The programme for Mr. Kizim and Mr. Solovoyov, who with a third cosmonaut hold the space endurance record of 238 days, has not been made public.

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سنة من العمل



# U.S. warns Iran not to expand Gulf war

WASHINGTON (USIA) — U.S. State Department Spokesman Bernard Kalb has warned that any expansion of the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq to other Arab states in the region would constitute "a major threat to U.S. interests."

"The Iranians have made no secret of their campaign to intimidate moderate Gulf Arab states," the spokesman said. "On Wednesday, for example, Kamal Kharrazi, the chief of Iran's War Information Headquarters, warned the Arab states to curtail their support for Iraq or, in his words, 'we shall naturally choose the military option.'"

"Kharrazi thus not only repeated the longstanding Iranian goal of overthrowing the Iraqi leadership, but he also explicitly warned that Iran would not hesitate to extend the conflict to neutral states in the Gulf region in support of that effort," Mr. Kalb said.

"The United States has consistently urged the earliest possible end to the Iran-Iraq war in a manner that will preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of both Iran and Iraq. We have stressed that expansion of the conflict elsewhere in the Gulf region would be a major threat to U.S. interests," the spokesman declared.

"It is this danger that was the major factor that prompted the timing of the administration's notification of our intent to sell missiles to Saudi Arabia. The sale would be a strong signal of U.S. determination to support regional self-defence and of U.S. opposition to any expansion of the war. Saudi Arabia is the key to collective defence of the peninsula," he said.

Mr. Kalb said the Reagan administration would closely study a just-released United Nations report which claims that Iraq repeatedly used the chemical weapon Mustard Gas in its six-year-war against Iran.

"At first glance, the U.N.'s conclusions do seem to accord with our own on this issue," the spokesman said. "We welcome the active role that the secretary general has taken in ascertaining the facts relating to this grave matter. As you know, we have consistently condemned the use of chemical weapons in this conflict. Such use is a serious violation of international law and threatens the efforts of many decades to ban this form of warfare. The use of chemical weapons in recent years is a matter of grave concern and underscores the urgency of curbing proliferation."

The horrors of this conflict underscore the necessity of ending this useless struggle. Regrettably, Iran has rebuffed the efforts of many in the international community to bring the fighting to an end. Mr. Kalb said. "We repeat our call for the earliest possible termination of hostilities."

The spokesman said he was unable to spell out what diplomatic undertakings may be underway between the United States and Iraq in connection with the use of chemical weapons. "Iraq certainly knows the U.S. view, but beyond that, I have nothing to offer," Mr. Kalb said.

U.N. investigators have claimed "significant new evidence" that Iraq recently used chemical weapons in its war against Iran. The investigators claimed that the main chemical used was mustard gas and said that on some occasions nerve gas was also used.

Dr. Behbehani said government inhibitions over registering known AIDS cases with WHO — because of the stigma attached to its primary mode of infection — should disappear once it becomes accepted that strict adherence to the Islamic faith rules out homosexuality as the root cause in this region.

Blood transfusions and the use of unsterilized syringes in medical treatment were identified at last month's conference as the most dangerous AIDS hazards in the area, he said.

"Some of these countries are so poor that they have to keep using these instruments over and over again," he said.

The conference proposed safeguards to protect blood and blood products, including a halt on blood imports, limits on the use of blood in medical therapy, screening of blood banks and a ban on high risk groups donating blood, he said.

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## U.S. says France failed to arrest TWA hijacker

WASHINGTON (R) — France failed to act on a U.S. request to arrest a Lebanese Shi'ite accused of masterminding the hijacking of a Trans World Airlines flight to Beirut last June, Justice Department sources have said.

They said France was asked to detain and prosecute the terrorist suspect, Imad Mughniyah, late last year after U.S. intelligence officials learned that he was planning to enter France.

The sources said French agents saw the suspect, a member of a radical group, but did not arrest him. His current whereabouts are unknown.

The sources were unable to say why the French failed to act, but the New York Times Friday quoted Reagan administration officials as saying the French decision not to make the arrest was probably based on Paris' continuing diplomatic efforts to gain the release of four French hostages in Lebanon.

A grand jury in Washington already has indicted three Lebanese Shi'ites thought to be responsible for the 17-day hijacking of TWA flight 847, during which 39 hostages were held and a U.S. navy diver, Robert Stetham, was murdered.

Arrest warrants and criminal complaints were issued for the three accused hijackers, identified in court documents as Mohammad Hamade, Ali Atweh and Hasan Izzaldeen.

FAO optimistic on agricultural progress

ISTANBUL (R) — Agricultural progress in the Islamic World is possible despite wars, civil unrest and natural disasters, a United Nations official said Saturday.

"Islamic countries, individually and collectively, have a large untapped potential for improving their food security and for enhancing the contribution of agriculture to their growth," Eduardo Sauma, director-general of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), said.

He told the second ministerial conference on food security and agricultural development of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) that agriculture had been adversely affected in some countries.

"A number of member states have suffered serious civil unrest, wars and natural disasters such as droughts and floods," he said in a written statement. But he added that many OIC member states had demonstrated these problems were not insurmountable.

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Israel's "impressive economic achievements" are responsible for the bitter infighting now plaguing the country's right-wing Likud coalition, the New York Times said Saturday.

When the coalition government of Labour Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Likud Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir came to power in 1984, conventional wisdom predicted that paralysis would result, the newspaper said in an editorial.

But Israel's inflation rate has dropped from 400 per cent to 25 per cent over the past six months, and prices actually fell in January under an austerity programme, it said.

Now that imminent economic disaster has passed, political ambitions formerly submerged for the common good have reappeared within the Likud coalition as Shamir prepared to switch posts with

## S. Union, Cuba and Ethiopia accused of supplying arms to Sudanese rebels

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — A leading Sudanese political commentator accused the Soviet Union, Cuba and Ethiopia Saturday of providing modern weapons and aircraft to southern Sudanese rebels.

Mohammad Al Hassan Ahmad, a confidant of both the cabinet and the ruling Transitional Military Council (TMC), made the charges in the daily Al Sahafa newspaper, and also said the rebel force was now estimated at about 40,000 men.

The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies gives the size of Sudan's regular army as 53,000 men.

Mr. Ahmad accused the United States of slowing down implementation of its military commitments to Sudan and of refusing to deliver promised aircraft 'under the pretext that such equipment would be used against Christians in the country's southern region.'

He said some aircraft had been sent to the United States for overhaul and had not been returned despite the expiry of the repair deadline.

"The United States has politely and cleverly apologised for failing to carry out its military commitments because the administration is pressed by Congress not to deliver arms," Mr. Ahmad said.

He also accused Britain and France of adopting the same policy and said "Britain has refused to maintain Sudanese aircraft because of pressure by parliament."

France, on the other hand, had agreed with the rebels that they would not destroy the Jonglei Canal Irrigation Project, co-financed by France, in exchange for denying military assistance to government troops.

Mr. Ahmad said southern rebel leader John Garang was also receiving substantial aid from Israel and church groups.

He said it was absurd to say that Sudan wanted to impose Islam on the Christian southerners and wondered about the real motives behind "this East-West collaboration against Sudan."

He said a call by Col. Garang for a "Sudanese identity" unrelated to either Arabs or Africans was a plot to destroy Sudan's Islamic conception and Arab commitment. "This is exactly what the East, West and Israel are wanting," he said.

Turning to Arab countries, Mr. Ahmad accused them of either adopting a neutral stand or providing very little assistance, despite their big arsenals.

"The Arabs are giving us promises and defending us by launching a war of words," he said. Meanwhile Sudan's deputy premier blamed the continuing rebellion in the south on the transitional government's failure to

abandon policies of ousted President Jaafar Numeiri.

"The wrong policies adopted by the defunct regime regarding south Sudan are still valid," Samuel Anu told the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA). "That's why the civil war is still going on."

SUNA distributed the interview on Saturday.

The comments by the deputy prime minister, irrigation minister and head of the South Sudan Political Association were the first by a ranking cabinet member apportioning blame for continued fighting to the new regime.

Mr. Anu specified two of Numeiri's still-valid acts as reasons that the rebels of Col. Garang have not laid down their arms: His division of the south into three provinces and his nationwide imposition of an Islamic-based legal code.

"The division of the South into provinces led to tensions in the region," Mr. Anu said, adding that peace can come only by "application of the Addis Ababa accord without any amendment."

The reference was to a pact Numeiri signed in the Ethiopian capital in 1972. It ended an earlier southern revolt by promising to keep the predominantly non-Muslim south as one political unit, with substantial autonomy, receiving more development funds from the central government, traditionally dominated by Muslim northerners.

The already cool relations between the United States and Libya have deteriorated further since the Dec. 27 attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports which killed 20 people, five of them Americans.

Col. Qadhafi has denied responsibility for the airport attacks and warned that any attack on his country by the United States will result in a major war in the region, challenged the American aircraft.

Washington, which charges that Col. Qadhafi sponsors and supports international terrorism, has said it is holding the manoeuvres to show its determination to use international airspace and waters.

The aircraft carrier America and 10 other navy ships left east coast ports last week for the Mediterranean where the United States will then have three carriers for a short period before the Saratoga heads back to the United States.

In 1981, two F-14 navy carrier jets shot down two Soviet-built SU-22 Libyan jets over the Gulf of Sirte after the Libyan planes

but did not cross a "line of death" drawn by Col. Qadhafi north of Sirte, which he claims as Libyan territory.

The United States disputes that claim and has recently amassed a fleet of nearly 30 warships in the Mediterranean, including the two aircraft carriers.

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abandon policies of ousted President Jaafar Numeiri.

"The wrong policies adopted by the defunct regime regarding south Sudan are still valid," Samuel Anu told the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA). "That's why the civil war is still going on."

SUNA distributed the interview on Saturday.

The comments by the deputy prime minister, irrigation minister and head of the South Sudan Political Association were the first by a ranking cabinet member apportioning blame for continued fighting to the new regime.

Mr. Anu specified two of Numeiri's still-valid acts as reasons that the rebels of Col. Garang have not laid down their arms: His division of the south into three provinces and his nationwide imposition of an Islamic-based legal code.

"The division of the South into provinces led to tensions in the region," Mr. Anu said, adding that peace can come only by "application of the Addis Ababa accord without any amendment."

The reference was to a pact Numeiri signed in the Ethiopian capital in 1972. It ended an earlier southern revolt by promising to keep the predominantly non-Muslim south as one political unit, with substantial autonomy, receiving more development funds from the central government, traditionally dominated by Muslim northerners.

The already cool relations between the United States and Libya have deteriorated further since the Dec. 27 attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports which killed 20 people, five of them Americans.

Col. Qadhafi has denied responsibility for the airport attacks and warned that any attack on his country by the United States will result in a major war in the region, challenged the American aircraft.

Washington, which charges that Col. Qadhafi sponsors and supports international terrorism, has said it is holding the manoeuvres to show its determination to use international airspace and waters.

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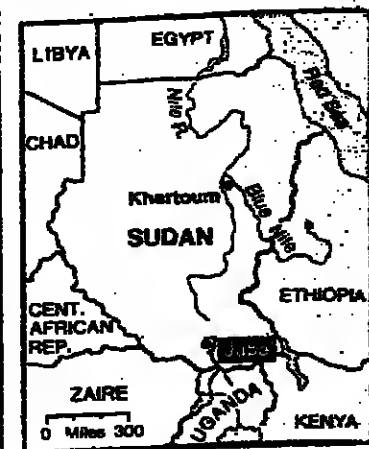
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## Libya pledges to cease helping Sudanese rebels

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Prime Minister Al Gazouli Dafaallah hinted upon returning home from a trip to Tripoli that Libya has pledged to stop supporting rebels in south Sudan.

Libya has reassured Sudan that it would side with the Sudanese people in their struggle to "free their will and to overcome all problems and maintain Sudan's territorial integrity," Mr. Dafaallah said in an arrival statement Friday.

Mr. Dafaallah's visit to Libya, the second in a week, came after the rebels captured Ramfak, a strategic town in south Sudan.

Well-informed government sources said the two visits to Libya were prompted by the need to ease the rebels' pressure on the government.

The statement said Sudan in turn reaffirmed support to Libyan people in their "legal defence against any aggression aimed at violating their territorial integrity, air space, territorial waters and their sovereignty over Sirte Gulf, a claim the United States disputes."

"Sudan condemns all the imperialist provocations, threats and measures hostile to the Libyan people," the statement added.

and even today his "upstart" status dogs him. Yehzekiel Dror, a Hebrew University sociologist, said in a telephone interview that the party Begin built was now coming of age.

"It is a transformation crisis. The newcomers are pushing for their place," he said.

Yosef Goell, a political columnist in the English-language Jerusalem Post accuses Levy of using his origins to win power by appealing to the resentments of Sephardi (North African) Jews in poor development towns against the governing Ashkenazi (European) Jews who put them there.

What chiefly distinguishes the new generation from the old, in the view of many who observed the rowdy Herut convention, where Shamir and Levy traded insults freely, is not age, ideology or ethnic origin, but adherence to Begin's concept of courtliness.

Levy, born in Morocco, is 20 years younger than Shamir. He forged his political career as a building worker in union politics. His main struggle was against poverty

power and so often his opposition to territorial compromise for peace with Arab neighbours.

Newspaper commentators and political pundits Friday agreed that whatever the consequences, the three-day convention adjourned after vicious name-calling, vandalism and attempts to silence senior government leaders was a watershed for the party which Begin molded in opposition as his personal political vehicle.

They agreed that Shamir, lost prestige to the party's deputy leader, Housing Minister David Levy. His tactical alliance with Trade Minister and Former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon has possibly made Shamir a minority leader in the party.

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## Kuwait to set up AIDS research centre

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), will this year set up one of three AIDS research centres planned for the Middle and Near East.

Dr. Kazem Behbehani, who organised the first Middle East conference on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) here last month, under the auspices of the Health Ministry and WHO, told Reuters the other venues had yet to be officially named.

An action plan produced at the conference stressed a need to prevent the incurable and often fatal disorder taking root in the mainly-Muslim Eastern Mediterranean region, spanning 20 North African and Eastern countries from Tunisia to Pakistan.

In the Islamic World, only two cases are known to have been officially acknowledged — by Saudi Arabia. Both were blamed on blood transfusions.

Since AIDS was first identified in 1981 some 20,000 cases have been registered worldwide, three-quarters of them in the United States.

AIDS, which destroys the body's immune system, is found mostly among homosexuals, but also attacks intravenous drug users and blood transfusion recipients.

Dr. Behbehani said there were no firm figures for AIDS in the Eastern Mediterranean. "Officially we don't know. There have been five or six reported in the newspapers."

A reluctance, evident in most parts of the world, to disclose the presence of AIDS and a lack of scientific know-how and facilities needed to pinpoint it in impoverished Third World countries were largely to blame.

"In some countries, like Afghanistan for example, they have no way of testing. They don't know," he remarked.

QATAR TO HOLD 1st post-independence census

DOHA (R) — Qatar's first official census since independence from Britain in 1971 begins Sunday, with 1,000 workers employed to carry out a 10-day count.

All 11,437 square kilometres of the Gulf state will be covered. The work is being supervised by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), a cabinet body established in 1980. Results will be announced by mid-April.

CSO Director-General Mohammad Mayouf Al Nuaimi told Reuters preparations for the count began last October with classification and calculation of housing units.

He said the CSO had sought help from the United Nations, the

media campaign leading up to zero hour, midnight Saturday (2100 GMT), urging the population to cooperate to make the census a success.

Forms in Arabic and English will record data on family numbers, nationality, occupation, education and dates of birth.

Previous unofficial estimates of the population of the oil-rich nation, which has one of the world's highest per capita incomes at around \$29,000 a year, have ranged around 257,000.

Only some 25 to 30 per cent are thought to be indigenous Qataris, the remainder being migrant workers — mostly from Asia and other Arab states.

U.S. Census Bureau and other Gulf Arab states.

"The census aims to define and study the social, economic and demographic aspects of the state in order to help planning, facilitate development, improve services and determine the people's needs," Mr. Nuaimi said.

Qatari adults temporarily abroad will be counted through Qatari embassies and students through their families at home.

The General Command of the Armed Forces and the Interior Ministry are helping with the count in inaccessible areas such as army and police camps as well as prisons.

The CSO ran a nation-wide

media campaign leading up to zero hour, midnight Saturday (2100 GMT), urging the population to cooperate to make the census a success.

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## WHAT'S GOING ON

(Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

EXHIBITIONS

An exhibition of plastic art by Mrs. Horia Inari at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 19).

A French exhibition on film directing at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 27).

PLAY

'Arabic play entitled "The Witness" at 10:30 a.m. and at 7:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.

"Us adolescents d'autrefois" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

BAZAAR

A charity bazaar at the Women Cultural Centre in Jabal Al Weibdeh.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267

American Centre 644371

British Council 63614778

French Cultural Centre 637009

Goethe Institute 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre 644303

Spanish Cultural Centre 642049

Turkish Cultural Centre 639777

Haya Arts Centre 665195

Husseini Youth City 6671816

W.C.A.A. 644793

Y.W.M.C.A. 664251

Amman Municipal Library 637111

University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qala' (Cinder Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

PRAYER TIMES

04:22 Fajr

05:45 Sunrise

11:45 Dhuhr

15:10 Asr

17:45 Maghreb

19:07 Isha



## Irbid police chief outlines causes of traffic accidents

IRBID (J.T.) — A total of 2,488 road accidents occurred in Irbid governorate during 1985 claiming the lives of 137 people and injuring 1,841 others. Outlining the causes of road accidents in the governorate, Irbid Police Director Colonel Abdul Rahman, Al Odwan said that numerous and various causes are behind road accidents: some due to drivers and pedestrians and others to the condition of the road.

Some people, he said, do not walk on the pavements and some families leave their children to play in the streets which is highly dangerous. He went on to say that people drive their vehicles very fast, carelessly or while drunk and without abiding by traffic rules. According to Col. Odwan, some roads are dangerous, especially those which are very narrow or full of curves.

Discussing measures to curb road accidents, Col. Odwan suggested widening roads, placing phosphoric signs on roads and parking vehicles in safe places, preferably not on the roadside. He also called on parents not to allow their teenage children to drive. He said that the sub-committee for traffic in the governorate is taking the necessary steps to try and organise traffic and to reduce the number of accidents.

## Cabinet okays 1986 budget for Housing Corporation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has recently approved the budget of the Housing Corporation for the fiscal year 1986, according to a report carried by the local Arabic daily newspaper Sawt Al Sha'ab. The budget includes government revenues, government contributions, current and capital expenditure.

The actual revenues of the corporation in 1984 amounted to JD 5,215,000 and in 1985 they were JD 6,034,000. The corporation estimates its independent revenues for 1986 at JD 11,500,000, the report said. The government contribution to the corporation's projects in 1984 amounted to JD 2 million and in 1985 it was JD 3 million. A total of JD 6 million has been allocated in the general budget of 1986 for the corporation's new projects.

## Comedy, suspense on a tea plantation

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Laughter and hilarity spiced with suspense and topped by some of Britain's best known actors has made "My Giddy Aunt," a two-act comedy thriller currently playing at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Playhouse, one of the most impressive and entertaining plays to be staged here.

With seven famous British actors, some known to Jordanian television and film audiences, an excellent director Ted Craig and renowned playwrights John Chapman and Ray Cooney — considered by drama critics as the most successful playwright of their generation — "My Giddy Aunt" won the audience's attention and appreciation throughout the 140-minute show.

Starring in the play is Peggie Mount who plays the roles of Lady Eppingham, a scatty and somewhat senile member of the aristocracy, and her illegitimate half sister, Beatrice Horrocks, a down to earth, a haberdashery shopowner thrown by fate into the midst of family entanglements. Co-starring with



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday presides over the opening of a four-day conference on the activities and services provided by municipal and village councils (Petra photo)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Moroccan speaker leaves Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Mr. Mohammad Sa'ad Al Alami, speaker of the Moroccan parliament, left Amman Saturday after taking part in the fourth Arab Parliamentary Union conference which concluded on Thursday. Mr. Alami was seen off at the airport by Khaled Al Falaq, member of the Lower House of Parliament, and representatives of the Foreign Ministry and the Moroccan Embassy in Amman.

### Experts to discuss resolutions on industry

AMMAN (Petra) — A special conference at experts level will be held here on March 16 to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations and resolutions issued by the fifth Arab industrial development conference. The two-day conference will be followed by a meeting at the level of industry ministers from Tunisia, Algeria, Syria and Jordan in addition to the Arab Industrial Development Organisation (AIDO) director general.

### IDB grants 30 loans to businesses

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of loans granted by the Industrial Development Bank during the past month reached 30, amounting to JD 102,700. The loans went to workshops and factories, bakeries, blacksmiths, car maintenance workshops and garages and upholstery shops. Bank sources said that the loans were distributed to Amman, Irbid governorate, the Jordan Valley and Zarqa.

### Hyena attacks farmer

AMMAN (J.T.) — A farmer in the outskirts of Amman has been attacked by a hyena and was admitted to hospital with minor injuries after fighting it off by hand, according to a report in the Arabic daily newspaper Sawt Al Sha'ab. The report said that Mr. Shehadeh Ahmad Fozza, 30, from Hasban district, was working on his land when the hyena appeared and immediately attacked him. The farmer hit the animal with an axe but it kept struggling while he tried to strangle it with his hands. The farmer's brother arrived on the scene and shot the hyena dead, the report said.

## Infrastructure for Yarmouk's new campus completed

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Yarmouk University has recently completed work on the infrastructure for the permanent campus, currently under construction to replace the present site in Irbid, according to a release issued by the university. The release said that a 45 kilometre network of streets has been asphalted in addition to pavements with a total length of 152 kilometres.

A system of water pipes with a length of 16 kilometres as well as a sewerage system with a length of 10 kilometres have also been laid, the release added. The infrastructure includes rain water drainage and another system for irrigation in addition to a central heating system, the release continued.

An artificial lake holding some 132,000 cubic metres of water, an electricity grid and telecommunications installations have also been put into operation as part of the initial construction.

The university's administration has recently announced that it was planning to utilise both its temporary and new sites on a permanent basis in a bid to gradually double its number of students.

Approximately 14,430 students are currently enrolled in the university at its temporary site in the city of Irbid. University President Adnan Badran told the Jordan Times in an earlier interview. Dr. Badran said the university's initial plans entailed moving all of the facilities to a permanent site just outside Irbid by June 1986.

However, in an effort to accommodate an increasing number of the 50,000 Jordanian students, who are currently forced to pursue their higher education abroad, Yarmouk will maintain its temporary site as institute for humanities, business and graduate studies. The science, medical and technical faculties will be moved to the permanent campus when it is completed.

### Increasing enrolment

Dr. Badran pointed out that the university would take advantage of the expanded facilities of the two campuses to gradually increase its enrolment to 30,000. Each campus will have the capacity to accommodate up to 15,000 students, Dr. Badran explained.

Dr. Badran explained that the science departments will be moved to the new site, allowing the other campus to immediately expand and accept up to 15,000 students for the 1986/87 academic year.

However, he added, the site which will house the science faculties, will only be able to accept up to 1,000 new science students for the 1986/87 academic year in addition to the existing 6,000 students until the work on building is completed.

## Crown Prince opens conference for municipalities, local councils

Prince Hassan suggests establishment of fund, training centre to help councils carry out development projects and manage municipal services

AQABA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday opened a four-day conference for Jordanian municipalities and local councils with a call for the establishment of a special fund, to be called the land fund, which could finance the implementation of large agricultural and public service projects undertaken by local councils.

The Crown Prince said that such a fund should be set up in cooperation with the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment and the Land and Survey Department. He said that this fund could save councils having to pay large sums to acquire land for their projects.

Prince Hassan also said that a special corporation could be established to help develop unused or waste land and to set up public gardens and shopping centres in various towns and villages.

Addressing the mayors and the heads of towns and village councils, Prince Hassan stressed the need for conducting a general survey to determine the number of families living in poverty prior to undertaking projects and other activities designed to increase family income, and to provide job opportunities in addition to offering government assistance to these needy families.

Prince Hassan also called for the establishment of a centre to train personnel employed in different municipal and village councils and which would provide training in administrative, financial and technical affairs related to municipal services.

He also suggested providing funds to help develop rural regions through long-term, easy loans and creating jobs in cooperation with local banks and other organisations.

Prince Hassan also called on councils to give proper attention to traditional Islamic architecture wherever and whenever possible and be urged councils to maintain coordination, cooperation and consultation in matters pertaining to the improvement of public services.

### Jerusalem

Referring to the occupied West Bank, Prince Hassan said that

ningfully and effectively towards the development of their regions, he added.

"We hope to transform local councils from a tool of merely offering public services to carrying out the role of comprehensive development," the minister said.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Hmoud said, is in the process of modernising councils' organisational plans for the sake of defining the proper use of all types of land for agriculture and construction.

Addressing the conference later was Mr. Khalil Khreisat, the district governor of Aqaba who is also chairman of the city's municipality committee. He said that Aqaba has now become a point of attraction of workers, investments and tourists and that it is an important economic centre in the Kingdom. Aqaba Municipality, he said, has been working hard to keep the city clean and to develop the beaches and other important attractions.

### Arab Cities Organisation

Mr. Tafeb Al Taher, director of the Arab Cities Organisation, made a speech praising the great achievements and development projects carried out in Jordan. The holding of the conference on the anniversary of Arab Cities Day is a manifestation of true support for the role of the Arab city which can play an important role in shaping society's activities, Mr. Taher said.

The Arab Cities Organisation, he continued, is keen on examining the Jordanian experiment in local administration and will extend all possible help to the local councils. Mr. Taher paid tribute to Prince Hassan who, he said, was keen on following development projects in Jordan in general and in urban regions in particular. He also voiced appreciation to Jordan for extending support to the Arab Cities Organisation.

Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, who attended the session, submitted a working paper suggesting that all city dwellers pay a contribution of JD 1 every year and that one per cent of the price of all locally manufactured products be paid to help finance municipalities' projects.

He also called on the government to allocate part of national revenues of between one and two per cent, to benefit municipalities.

### Shortage of funds

The shortage of funds constitutes the major stumbling block in the path of improving public services and this problem is being aggravated by the fact that the government itself can not provide help to local councils to improve their services, Mr. Rawabdeh pointed out.

He attributed the shortage of revenues to the low rate of fees, and taxes imposed by councils on the population, the rising prices of land which has to be purchased by councils for different projects and the poor performance of councils' financial departments.

He suggested that a re-examination be made of municipalities' laws every five years with the purpose of increasing taxes and he said the government should introduce increases on the value added tax and taxes on roads. He pointed out that the present law on these matters has been in force since 1964 and has become almost obsolete.

Mr. Rawabdeh suggested that the Ministry of Public Works undertake major road projects and carry out road maintenance instead of the municipalities and local councils.

### CVDB loans

Another working paper was presented by Mr. Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani, the director general of the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB). In his paper, Mr. Hourani spoke of the objectives and aims of the bank which was established in 1979, and said that numerous loans have been granted to local councils to help them carry out their projects. He criticised the councils' sources of revenues which he said were "inadequate", and could not help councils settle their loans. He also said that failure on the part of the citizens to pay their dues has been impeding the process of carrying out services.

## NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A. AMMAN BRANCH

The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. wishes to advise its customers that it intends to close its branch and cease its operations in Amman as of the close of business on April 3, 1986. Chase is pleased to announce, however, that it has reached an agreement with The Bank of Jordan Ltd., which is a banking institution known to us and whom we hold in esteem, to accept the transfer of your account(s) under the same terms and conditions currently in effect with Chase.

The Bank of Jordan Ltd. has advised Chase of their intention to continue to operate the business from Chase's present branch location at First Circle, Jebel Amman, and to employ substantially all of Chase's present staff so that your banking needs may continue to be served without disruption.

A letter further explaining this transfer has been sent to all customers at their most recent address on Chase's records. If you have not received that letter or if you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Customer Service Representatives from The Bank of Jordan Ltd. will be available at Chase's premises to respond to any questions you may have regarding their services.

Thank you for your patronage, and please accept our expression of best wishes for all your future endeavors.

The General Manager



The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. Amman Branch  
P.O. Box 20191  
Amman, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
Telephone: 625131  
Telex : 21479 Chase JO

## Yamani warns Britain of 'disaster' ahead

(Continued from page 1)

make your own surmises — where we could be heading for political upheavals, sparked off by financial collapses due to this huge and sudden slump in oil prices. The best and perhaps the only way to ward this off is for the non-OPEC producers, and above all Britain and Norway, to cooperate in price control. Neither of them is coming to Geneva, but I don't despair of getting some talks going afterwards, perhaps in London. However, I must say that something odd is going on this front. Some six weeks ago, the Norwegian oil minister confirmed to me in writing that he was ready to begin reducing output. Within a few days, however, he started to wobble and then the commitment was withdrawn altogether. One is bound to ask oneself: who had been talking to him?"

Sheikh Yamani is not the most prestigious figure in the oil world for nothing. His own relatively modest office is preceded by a string of four ante-rooms. They were dotted with Arab visitors. There were also quite a few Japanese, American and European callers. Indeed, the only reason that I was ushered into his presence, on time, and within three days of his arrival in Riyadh, was that a very highly placed Arab friend had put in a personal request on my behalf with the minister.

Sheikh Yamani looked absolutely exhausted and he admitted that he was really tired. But there was no weariness in his conversation, conducted in that very quiet and courteous voice which has become one of his hallmarks.

I plunged into the maze of prices. Was it true that some countries had been suggesting drastic action in the form of an immediate

and total shutdown of production for up to four weeks to force world prices up? If so, what did he think of the idea? He confirmed the report (without naming the countries behind the scheme which were, in fact, Libya, Algeria and Iran).

"But what real good would that do?" he asked. "All right. The price might shoot up briefly to \$30 a barrel. And it is just not practical to ask the weaker producer nations to join in a longer shutdown. Don't forget that apart from revenue we in Saudi Arabia rely on our energy output to keep vital projects going like our huge water desalination programme. We have been hit hard enough already by trying to take the strain ourselves to keep world prices steady. That is why we have been forced to postpone our next budget for five months. How can we budget when we don't know what

the oil price will be from one week to the next? It might drop as low as \$8 a barrel. I don't say it is probable, but it is possible."

The talk kept coming back to the North Sea. Surely, I put it to him, a Conservative government which had always made its main priority the reduction in inflation could only be expected to welcome lower oil prices which would further that central aim. That was a genuine national interest.

"I respect your leaders and do not wish to comment on your domestic politics," he replied. "But just look at the plain mathematics. The British treasury is now losing billions of pounds from reduced oil revenue. Which is better — to have the same income by reduced output at higher prices, or by maximum extraction at low prices? Clearly, the former, for it conserves your resources at the same time."

كنا من اجل



# Jordan Times

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## Sunday Economic Pulse

# Offshore banking, why not?

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

A seminar was held recently at the Association of Banks in Jordan to discuss offshore banking activities, normally practised by the so-called banking offshore units.

I don't have the intention to pre-empt the monthly magazine of the association, "Banks in Jordan," which will publish in a week's time the full text of the paper presented to the seminar by Mr. Jawad Hadid, a prominent Jordanian banker, and the lengthy discussions and arguments that followed the presentation.

However, I want to submit that, perhaps it is high time to allow offshore units to operate officially in Jordan, and deal exclusively in foreign exchange

operations, and non-resident accounts in particular.

Admittedly, I was always against the idea, because the benefits that may accrue to Jordan are marginal and too little to justify the risk and the possible distortion in our stable banking system.

At that time, the only benefits thought of, were the salaries, the rents, and the communication fees which will be created by offshore units.

Several years ago, when we flurried with the idea, we were suffering from acute shortages of personnel, offices, houses and communication facilities. The offshore units, we feared, would form an additional bur-

den on these limited facilities, which obviously was not desirable.

The situation has been altered from two stand points: First, the economic situation has changed. We now have an unemployment problem, a surplus of offices, plenty of houses and apartments to let, and an extra capacity in transport and communication facilities to offer. A new demand on these items is beneficial.

Second, our suspicions that offshore operations may direct resources to overseas instead of financing the national economy are no more valid, because what was a possible evenuality became a reality to live with. Our commercial banks

actually commenced the practice of offshore banking, just like full fledged offshore units, without waiting for an official licence or approval. The total non-resident deposits in foreign exchange held by Jordanian banks reached \$1 billion or so.

Having been brought to this state of affairs, whether we like or not, it may be reasonable to regulate offshore operations, and ask each commercial bank, interested in offshore banking, to have a special overseas branch or section for that purpose. Offshore operations should not be mixed with resident banking operations. It should be subjected to a different set of regulations and presented

independently in separate balance sheets and profits and loss statements.

Under the present indiscriminate between local and offshore activities, we are almost lost. We don't know exactly how much of the foreign assets are held on behalf of non-residents, and how much belongs to the country and properly form a part of the official reserve in gold and foreign exchange. The ratios derived from a bank's overall balance sheet is now meaningless, and could not be used to control banks through the usual banking ratios.

Finally we have to point out that offshore banking profits

are usually exempted from income tax. However the Jordanian law makers erred and instead exempted the interest received, which is at least ten times the net profits. This loophole can be remedied by differentiating between the results of offshore operations and local operations. Such a step will save the treasury the unnecessary huge loss in tax proceeds, which works at the same time as a disservice to the economy, because it forms an incentive for investing abroad instead of fostering the national economy.

Offshore banking may be bad, or out of date, but what we have could be worse.

## Many years ago ...

THE REAGAN administration's decision to present to Congress a \$354 million request for arms sales to Saudi Arabia has already generated strong opposition within Congress, and only highlights the imbalance that characterises American policy in the Middle East. We find it odd that the United States would continue to aspire to play the role of the impartial mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict, when it is so blatantly partial to Israel on the question of arms sales to parties Middle Eastern.

Last month, the Reagan administration abandoned a large arms sale to Jordan because there was too much opposition in Congress. In both the Jordan and Saudi Arabia deals, the American Congress — in its persona of God's Special Helper — demands proof that Jordan and Saudi Arabia are contributing to "advancing the cause of peace in the Middle East."

Of course, no such requirements are asked of Israel when the United States routinely sells advanced weapons or donates billions of dollars to Israel. Why? It is accepted by the majority of federal legislators in the United States that Israel's rights, security, existence are more important than the corresponding rights, security or existence of the Palestinian, Jordanian, Saudi Arabian and other Arab people. It is this kind of blatant double-standard that leaves most of us chuckling when we are told of the desire of the United States to help promote a fair peace in the Middle East. We used to believe it, once, many years ago, when we flattered the naïveté of youth.

Why, then, is it a surprise for American officials that some Arab individuals or organisations are finally driven to the point of attacking American lives and interests in the area? Much as we might express our opposition to anti-American violence in the area on both moral and tactical grounds, the fact remains that extremist Arab actions against American targets in the Middle East are the inevitable consequence of extremism by those in the United States Congress who ultimately formulate American policy in the region. We see it happening again this week. Let us therefore put out naïveté in our back pockets, and be surprised by neither the imbalance from Washington nor the corresponding reaction from the Arab World.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Arab leaders' responsibilities

THE parliamentarians who concluded a two-day conference in Amman on Thursday have adopted constructive ideas which appeared in their final communiqué. But such ideas should be put into practice as soon as possible for the sake of gaining time and bringing about solidarity among Arab countries, now together facing challenges and serious threats to their future. Solidarity can be of poor effect if it should come too late. Frankly speaking, Arab credibility is now undergoing true test and Arab leaders are called on to honour the commitments which the Arab parliamentarians undertook in their meetings in Amman. If Arab leaders respond favourably to the ideas of the representatives of the Arab people, then they would no doubt gain credibility for themselves and for their nation before the world. The dangers inherent in Israel's atrocities and inhuman practices in the occupied territory do not allow for further delay in achieving genuine solidarity, and the Iraq-Iran war which has caused so much destruction and losses cannot wait any longer. If action is to be taken this is the time to start and if results are to be achieved, serious and meaningful steps must be undertaken by the heads of the Arab states.

### Al Dustour: The Gulf war

THE latest developments in the Gulf war have completely ruled out the idea that it is a war that concerns the two neighbours alone; Iraq and Iran. The latest communiqué issued by foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council indicated clearly that the war is one that is being imposed on the whole Arab nation. The final communiqué issued by the Arab Parliamentary Union's conference in Amman emphasised this concept, and made it clear that the Iraqi armed forces are now engaged in a war for defending the whole nation. Therefore the Gulf war is of concern to all Arabs for the present and for the future, and so it becomes incumbent on the Arab states to follow a sound course in their action in order to achieve an end to the conflict. What they have to do now is to apply the joint defence pact which commits all Arabs to come to the defence of any Arab state that's being subjected to foreign aggression. It seems this is the only option open to the Arabs since Iran is persistent in pursuing its losing war. Once Iran becomes certain that the Arabs are determined to put an end to the war by force, it will give up its adventure and think seriously of ending the conflict. We hope the communiqués will serve as an ultimatum to the Iranians and a final word.

### Sawt Al Shaab: The oil syndrome

THE revival of economy in the United States, Japan and Western Europe has started with the drop in the price of oil. When the economic difficulties started in these nations by 1974, the governments there began taking proper measures to contain the crisis and certain actions were taken to find alternative sources of energy like coal and gas. These governments also attracted the largest sums of capital from oil rich nations, and used this capital in income-generating projects for their own people's benefit. The western nations were able to absorb the crisis and undertook certain measures to help them overcome the difficulties. What happened to the Third World nations and in particular to the oil producing countries was something completely different. Such countries are now awaiting the oil prices to settle and stabilise before they can undertake a proper measure to adjust to the new situation, and to plan for the coming stage. What such countries should do at present, is to avoid negative policies and actions and adopt sound economic policies that would ensure a revival of their national economies.

## Gonzalez victory ties Spain to W. Europe

By Francois Raitberger

MADRID — Spain's vote in favour of continued membership of NATO fulfilled Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez's design to firmly tie his country to Western Europe after centuries of isolation. Political sources have said.

Gonzalez has been accused of playing Russian roulette in calling March 12 referendum in the face of public opinion that had seemed markedly reluctant to embrace the alliance.

The 44-year-old premier's intense campaigning won the day almost single-handed.

But officials in his Socialist Party said he had to fight the toughest battle of his political career to explain why he changed his mind after opposing entry into NATO four years ago.

He needed all his persuasive powers to convince NATO opponents, among them many Socialist supporters, that withdrawing from the alliance would deal a serious blow to Spain's integration into West Europe.

Rejecting European defence duties three months after joining the European Community would be "occupying a house without paying the rent," he said.

Modern Spain, he said, would suffer dire economic consequences if it turned its back on countries with which it did 75 per cent of its trade.

As opinion polls consistently forecast a rejection of NATO, Gonzalez said again and again that Spain's future lay with its neighbours and that leaving the alliance would be a step back in its opening to Europe since the death of General Franco in 1975.

His appeals to reason won the uphill battle against leftists and pacifists, who played on the emotions of voters by tapping fears of nuclear war and anti-American sentiment.

While NATO officials in Brussels were relieved, Socialists celebrated with champagne and caviar at their Madrid headquarters as the unexpected margin of their victory became evident — 52.5 per cent against 39.8 per cent.

"Spain will have more weight in the European Community ... It will be regarded as a partner with full guarantees," Spanish EC

Commissioner Manuel Marin said.

At Puerta del Sol square in central Madrid, dejected anti-NATO campaigners saw their own fiesta evaporate as they watched a giant television screen show Gonzalez claiming victory.

"I am fully convinced this result strengthens the path of peace ... democracy and progress on which Spain started a decade ago," he said.

He appealed to all to accept the outcome and said he would work towards rebuilding a consensus over defence policy.

Communist anti-NATO leader Gerardo Iglesias said he would keep campaigning for the dismantling of the four U.S. military bases in Spain.

He said he would demand that Gonzalez abide by his pledge to seek a reduction in the number of U.S. troops on the bases and keep Spain free of nuclear weapons and out of NATO's military command structure.

At the headquarters of the opposition popular coalition, right-wing leader Manuel Fraga Iribarne claimed victory for his campaign in favour of abstention.

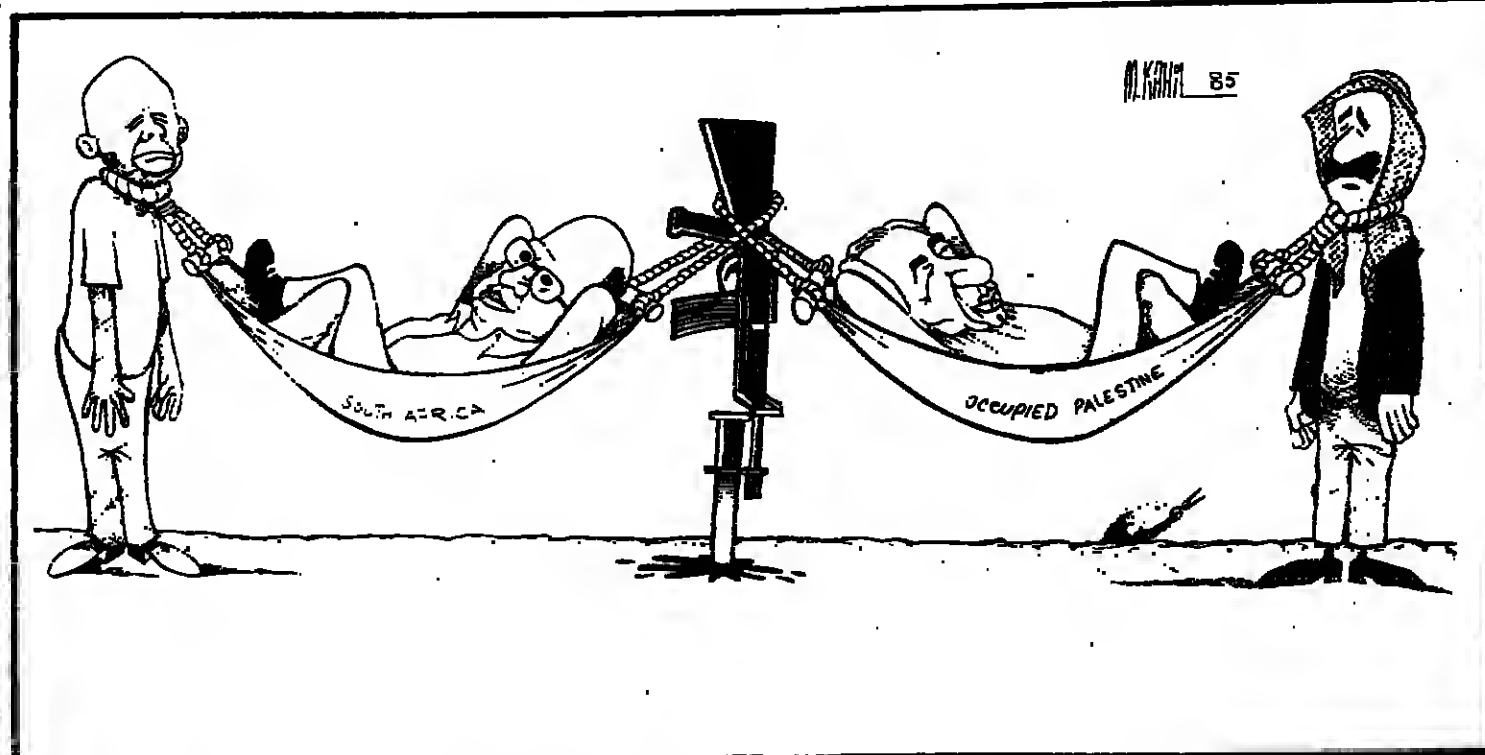
Fraga, accused by the Socialists of betraying his pro-NATO views to improve his election chances, pointed out that more people abstained than voted "yes."

But the turnout of just under 60 per cent showed that only 12 per cent more eligible voters abstained than in the average of all national polls held since Spain's return to democracy.

"Suicide strategy" was how the leading daily El Pais saw Fraga's referendum campaign ahead of general elections due by next October.

The newspaper described the Socialist victory as costly after a divisive campaign. It said the referendum showed a serious divorce between public opinion and parliament where only five of 350 deputies oppose NATO.

If Felipe Gonzalez could sound the heart of hundreds of thousands of voters, he would know they changed their "no" vote or their abstention to a "yes" vote not in order to prop up his cabinet ... but to secure for themselves a stable political future," it said.



## Is S. Africa heading towards civil disobedience

By Arik Bachar

JOHANNESBURG — Racial tension could erupt in a fresh blaze of violence in South Africa when ultimatum for the reform of apartheid, accompanied by threats of strikes and foreign sanctions, run out at the end of the month, political analysts say.

The first deadline, set before Christmas by Bishop Desmond Tutu, gave the government until March 31 to respond to a list of grievances or face a national strike and calls for international sanctions.

The analysts said Tutu's deadline will provide potential for a renewed eruption of racial strife in South Africa, already at unprecedented levels after two years of rioting.

His ultimatum was linked to general reforms of apartheid racial segregation laws but also, more specifically, to black education over which there were mass class boycotts in black schools throughout 1985.

Tutu, the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner, told Reuters on March 12 he had still to decide on the strategy to adopt when the deadline expires.

"I am still thinking about what is the best thing one can do for this country," he said.

One Western diplomat said: "I think the middle of the year is going to be very tricky. International unrest then could increase pressure on governments abroad for more sanctions."

When he urged black pupils to return to school in January, Tutu presented a list of demands on education and said:

"If the government after three months refuses these requests, then it must not just be the students who lay down their tools. I suggest that teachers, parents, workers, church leaders, university staff and students must all combine in a concerted effort to say stop."

He added: "At the end of March if these things are not happening then I will be among those that will call for punitive sanctions against the government."

Before his deadline runs out there is another potential flashpoint on March 21 when blacks throughout the country commemorate the shooting by police of 69 people in Sharpeville in 1960.

On the same day last year, 20 blacks were shot down by policemen at Langa in the Eastern Cape province.

Then, on June 16, blacks will remember one of the most traumatic episodes in the country's turbulent race relations, the 10th

anniversary of nationwide riots which spread from Soweto township and ended 11 months later with 575 deaths.

About the same time, a deadline for apartheid reform set by the commonwealth group of nations last year falls due. But Pretoria has already said it would not accept time frames imposed by outsiders to change its racial laws.

Western diplomats said the United States Congress is also expected to resume intensive debate around mid-year on possible further sanctions to add to the limited punitive measures imposed by President Reagan in October.

The atmosphere is extremely tense in the black townships where most of the 1,300 victims of two years of racial violence have died and the analysts believe the anniversaries and deadlines could set off more bloody confrontations.

Cheryl Carolus, an official of South Africa's largest anti-apartheid group, the United Democratic Front, told a meeting in Cape Town on the night of March 11 "March 31 is going to come and the nation is going to respond."

She did not elaborate but her remark was seen as a warning of further protests if demands by black students were not met.

Pupils who last year gave up classes in favour of street battles with

police want higher education standards, the removal of troops from their townships and the release of political detainees.

A major anti-apartheid movement, grouping more than 300 black organisations, said on March 12 it would discuss calling a nationwide strike of black workers at a meeting later this month.

Saths Cooper, convenor of the National Forum, told a press conference this would be one of the topics discussed at a two-day meeting in Durban starting on March 28.

It would also consider proposals for a black boycott on payment of rents and the establishment of an alternative education system to that run by the white minority government.

"These topics will be open for discussion and there is no way of knowing what will be decided," Cooper said.

A statement by the National Forum said: "Given the government's apparent message that it will not tolerate extra-parliamentary opposition at all despite its claims to reform, and that it understands only the language of violence, it becomes imperative that the National Forum reassess its various policy positions and its approach to the struggle realistically."

## Neutral Switzerland debates United Nations membership

By Donald Nordberg

ZURICH — After a vigorous public debate on whether fiercely neutral Switzerland should cease to be the only major country outside the United Nations, Swiss voters will decide on Sunday if their country is finally to join the world body.

The government has said yes and so has parliament, with convincing majorities in both houses. But opinion polls show that the people — who have the final word — are likely to say no.

The decision of the referendum is hindering. This follows the Swiss practice under which government and parliament regularly vote to give guidance on measures which then have to be presented to the population for final adoption.

For months politicians of every persuasion have dashed publicly on the issue of U.N. membership. Christoph Blocher of the People's Party and Social Democrat Walter Renschler, both members of parliament, have toured the country presenting their views at a series of joint debates in public auditoriums.

"The United Nations is an instrument for spreading Communism," charges Blocher. "Independence does not mean isolation and retreat," declares Renschler.

Despite its non-membership, Switzerland has close ties to the U.N., housing its European head-

quarters in Geneva, participating in nearly all of its organisations and providing them financial aid worth nearly \$100 million a year.

It decided to stay a member of the U.N. Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), even while such full U.N. members as the United States and Britain withdrew support.

A Swiss national has just been named U.N. high commissioner for refugees, and another heads the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the U.N.'s watchdog over trade disputes.

Switzerland has even provided equipment for United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, and Swiss troops have been stationed in South Korea since 1953 under a U.N. mandate.

The issue of joining the U.N. has created unusual fissures in a political landscape normally marked by goodwill and compromise. Even though the government supports membership, national delegates of the People's Party, one of three conservative parties in the four-party coalition, voted against it.

Another government party, the Christian Democrats, gave it support at the national party congress only to see a number of regional parties defect. And a third, the radical Democrats, saw a clear majority revolt at the regional level.

Only in the fourth, the left-

of-centre Social Democrats, has support remained true among the rank and file. But some of the increasingly popular fringe parties, including the anti-Foreign National Action, are firmly against.

The Federation of Commerce and Industry and the Farmers' Federation — which usually take stands on referendums — abstained this time because of deep internal splits.

The latest opinion poll, conducted by the Geneva newspaper La Suisse, showed that 48 per cent opposed membership in the United Nations, while only 34 per cent were in favour, with the balance undecided.

Twenty per cent of those against membership cited the cost — an extra \$10.5 million a year — as their main worry.

But 32 per cent saw the danger to neutrality as the main reason for not joining, while 11 per cent said they feared for Swiss independence.

Jean-Pierre Bonny, a radical Democrat member of parliament and U.N. opponent, says Swiss neutrality would be compromised, as in 1935 when the country, as a member of the League of Nations, was obliged to declare economic sanctions against fascist Italy.

Though the United Nations allows neutral states to avoid joining military sanctions, article 41 of the U.N. charter requires all members to observe non-military sanctions.

## AUDITORS' REPORT

We have examined the Balance Sheet of SSANGYONG CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. - Jordan Branch (Foreign Limited Company) as at 31st December, 1985, and the related Profit and Loss Statement for the year then ended, and have obtained the information and explanations which were required for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion, and according to the books and vouchers of the company and to the information and explanations given to us, the accompanying Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement present fairly the financial position of SSANGYONG CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. - Jordan Branch, as at 31st December, 1985.

Bawab & Co.  
Accountants & Auditors  
Amman

Amman, 27th February, 1986

## SSANGYONG CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD JORDAN BRANCH BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1985

	JD	Fls	JD	Fls
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
VEHICLES	9250	950		
Less Accumulated Depreciation	9015	878	235	072
<b>TOOLS</b>				
Less Accumulated Depreciation	2580	584	528	813
Furniture and Fixtures	10954	665		
Less Accumulated Depreciation	5346	675	5607	990
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>			6371	875
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Cash in hand and at banks (Note 3)	20075	516		
Deposits	41350	000		
Accounts receivable	111943	419		
Other debit balances (Note 4)	1939	065	175308	000
			181679	875
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts payable	18832	999		
Accrued expenses	15430	526	34263	525
<b>HEAD OFFICE FUND</b>				
Registered capital in Jordan	10000	000		
Seangyong Construction Co. Ltd-Seoul	7437029	244		
	7447029	244		
Less accumulated losses (Note 5)	7299612	884	147416	350
			181679	875

The attached notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these statements

Amman, 27th February, 1986

GENERAL MANAGER



## At last—sponsorship for theatre in Jordan

By Josephine Zamanbri  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Certainly the scenario looked promising. Perfectly beautiful president, Ginny Toukan and a chandelier-lit group of the odd and avantgarde. The unborn circle included Nabil Sawalha, the sardonic director of children's entertainment, youthfully rebellious young director Sawas Darwaza, playwright Jamil Awad accompanied by his wife Juliette, a striking woman of resolute character, and Ibrahim Abu Nabab, a pleasantly smiling man holding a folded magazine. An impressive scenario for the denouement of a who dunnit. However the proceedings in question were rather more who will do it. The Royal Theatre Club (RTC), explains president Ginny Toukan, wishes to encourage Arab theatre in Jordan and funds are available from the R.T.C. The circle looks decidedly interested.

Act one of the Royal Theatre Club started in 1983 when a small group of theatre lovers banded together to form the basis of the now flourishing semi-professional theatrical sponsors.

Act two introduced some extremely successful musicals directed by Mrs. Vanessa Batrouni and a comedy "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown." Financially rewarding and well received by the productions established the group on a professional standing.

Act three however promises to transform the clique of theatre lovers into a mainstream force behind Arab theatre in Jordan, provided of course local directors and playwrights meet the challenge.

### Arab theatre

In modern times theatre has taken the Arab World by storm. Egypt is considered the heart of modern Arab theatre with its huge spectrum of plays, ranging from lengthy comedies to melodramas. Kuwait too has developed a local theatre complementing its other quickly advancing media mon-

opolies. Lebanon produces plays as convoluted and divergent as its diverse political spectrum. Iraq and Syria have also developed an indigenous theatrical movement. Theatre, however, is a newcomer to the arts here.

A small Jabal Lweibdeh place named after Jordanian actor Usama Machini presents local productions for Amman audiences. The Royal Cultural Centre fosters both Jordanian and foreign plays and has proved a boon to local thespians. Television too has often provided bread and butter for local directors, actors and musicians.

Jordan does not lack theatres and certainly there are a small number of talented actors, experienced directors and playwrights. Financial constraints however have continuously dogged local theatrical development and directors are often expected to put up all the backing for their plays. "Some of the money is feasible but all are really asking too much," comments Sawas Darwaza.

The R.T.C. act three proposals come at an opportune time. Certainly directors and writers buzzed with excitement at the prospect of backing for their work.

### Children's plays

An immediate and apparent agreement between the R.T.C. and writers or directors spanned the option of children's theatre. Anne Sawalha, R.T.C. treasurer says: "We want to create interest in the theatre in the new generation." Jamil Awad who has written several children's plays directed by his wife Juliette, immediately recalls his sketches written for the "International Day of the Book." Based on traditions from various countries throughout the world, the plays, he says, could easily be set to music and provide an entertaining and educational theatrical experience for Amman's children.

Mr. Awad maintains theatre is necessary for both young and old. "It is a civilising influence," he comments, "as it causes people to look at themselves and the rest of the world with altered perception." Neither is theatre a bourgeois entertainment, adds Mr. Awad, "if you plan to talk to all people then you will find them." For Mr. Awad the role of the playwright is a serious one. "We live

in difficult times," he stresses, "and we have to describe our circumstances through art."

As director of the Haya Arts Centre, Nabil Sawalha has influenced the creative lives of thousands of children in Amman. He is not prepared to discuss theatre and with a disdainful shrug announces, "I'm disappointed with the Arab theatre" and he returns to the more immediate problem of recanting a story for director Youssef Bazian.

A serious theatre devotee, once offered a scholarship to study with the Royal Shakespeare Company, Mr. Bazian masquerades during light hours as a banker. He is happy to discuss the problems of theatre in Jordan. Theatrical arts flourish here for two reasons, he maintains, "firstly lack of text followed by inadequate funding." Mr. Bazian believes that Jordan has "sufficient talent and facilities" for a serious sortie into more advanced productions.

Sawas Darwaza, greets the Royal Theatre Club's proposals with delight. "I have something in mind," she says. Ms. Darwaza realistically maintains theatre is a luxury in Jordan as she says it is a very young country. She feels theatre will largely remain in the domain of entertainment for some time to come.

### Future plans

How does the Royal Theatre Club view the future of theatre in Jordan? "Oh we are ambitious," says Anne Sawalha. Quickly running over the club's past theatrical successes, she launches into their vision of the future. "We want to involve kids in the theatre, create a new generation not only passively appreciative of the theatre but actively involved in it too." In the coming months, she says, the club will hold a tap dancing workshop and a month-long drama school both for children. Next month their production of "Amie" will be staged. Shortly after, in cooperation with the United States Information Service (USIS) they are to sponsor a tour by the American Minnesota Opera Company.

Prospects for future theatre appear promising for Jordan following the Royal Theatre Club's proposal. The spotlight is now definitely on local directors and playwrights. What will they give us as act four?

## Lebanon's telephone Help-Line draws war-weary and the obscene

By Diana Abdallah  
Rouler

BEIRUT — An emergency telephone service set up to help Lebanese cope with the problems of living through nearly 11 years of civil war attracts mainly the depressed and the obscene.

Katie Saroufim, coordinator of Beirut's first and only telephone distress project, said one third of

calls fielded by 20 student volunteers were obscene.

"It is true similar programmes around the world receive such calls, but in Lebanon it seems the desire of some people to shock us is very frequent," said Katie, 25.

One possible explanation was that despite the social and economic upheaval of war, people from a tradition-bound society sought an anonymous outlet for

pent-up feelings.

"Help-Line" was launched 12 months ago by Doctor Nohad Tomeh, who worked in a similar programme in the United States.

"He thought that with the enormous problems the Lebanese face, it was important to start this programme," Katie said.

"But since then we got only one suicide call. A few others are from depressed people who have difficulty coping with the stress of continuous conflict."

One of the major difficulties Help-Line found was simply getting its single telephone line.

Telephone links in the capital are notoriously fickle, and people sometimes have to wait years for a telephone.

"It took us one year to get this line installed although it is essential for our work," Katie said.

Some callers treated Help-Line as a joke or used it to pass the time, but others called to complain about their anxiety in a country at war with itself.

"One militiaman said he was tired of fighting and wanted a job," said Gibran, a 25-year-old student.

"One woman sought our opinion about a fancy dress she wanted to wear to a Halloween party," said Nadia, a 21-year-old university student.

Katie said the only personal problem which Lebanese seemed to have in common with users of similar telephone distress lines around the world was the issue of romance, with teenagers seeking advice on their relationships.

One frequent complaint was by young people from different religious sects who wish to marry but were prevented by the country's sectarian society.

Nadia said the volunteers were often asked to play matchmakers and set up dates. "Very often they ask us for dates, too," she said with a laugh.

Gibran said he tried to refer lonely people to join social groups.



CONTRAST: Albert Pernitsch a 299 kilograms heavy, from Austria and 245.7 centimetre tall Gabriel E. Monjane from Mozambique meet as Shigeo Nagashima (right), a former Tokyo's Yomhuri Giants baseball star, looks on in a TV show entitled "Guinness Book's World Records" in Tokyo on Sunday, March 10.



Luweibdeh streets are green, clean and not very busy (photo by Liliane Ayoub)

## A soft-spot for Luweibdeh

By Liliane Ayoub

I LOVE Jebel Luweibdeh. What is it about that area which attracts me so much?

As soon as one drives into Luweibdeh, one cannot but feel the distinctive charm it has. Luweibdeh is a sort of an oasis in the sense that it is not a cross-roads. One does not usually pass through it in order to reach another destination. This makes Luweibdeh a private area. Its narrower roads rarely get congested, rush hour is still unheard of.

The closely-knit houses in Luweibdeh are hardly spaced; this emanates a feeling of coziness and friendliness, as compared to say, to the newer residential areas where houses are built on larger lots with large gardens and are distinctly separated by well-defined fences, which gives the feeling of exclusiveness and also of alienation. In these new areas, it is unlikely to see a pedestrian, shopping bags in hand, just dropping by a friendly neighbour for a chat at the door or for a quick cup of coffee. In Luweibdeh, one still might.

Luweibdeh is mostly neighbourhood. The frequent complaint I hear from friends who have moved from Luweibdeh is: "Oh, we miss our neighbours and friends. They used to just drop by. Now, we see them less often and only by appointment."

As I don't live in Luweibdeh, I find the minutest excuse, time permitting, to drive there, be it to

buy vegetables, groceries or whatever. I'd swear that the sizzling *fefafel* which they fry on the premises is the tastiest. In spite of the number of shops and boutiques that are continuously sprouting along its main roads, still, the place does not scream commercial. It still retains its local, quaint atmosphere. One can shop at leisure, unhurried. Name it, from fancy chocolates to china, one can buy most things there. There is even a couple of souvenir shops which besides selling the local artisanat, also provide antique silver chains and jewelry, coins, old embroidered traditional dresses, chests inlaid with mother-of-pearl, and the such.

One day, if Amman is ever to have a street exclusively allocated to pedestrians, I envisage that the main street of Luweibdeh, starting at the Terra Sancta Shopping centre and ending at Khalaf Stores would be the ideal location. I can see that there will be a number of open-air cafes and restaurants, along with shops and may be someone playing the Rababa in the background.

Even if that street might be crowded with tourists and also Jordanians, I am almost sure that the place will still retain its local touch; it will not scream commercial.

The touch of Luweibdeh will still prevail. No matter how far Amman will stretch, Luweibdeh will remain a soft-spot to me. I will always go back there, in search of that particular feel.

## Imelda Marcos left behind veritable department store

By Alex Gaw

The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — When she fled the Philippines, Imelda Marcos left behind enough expensive designer clothes, shoes, handbags and other accessories to fill a department store, a journalist who visited the basement holding the wardrobe said last Monday.

The former first lady had a reputation for lavishness, but until she and former stoogman Ferdinand E. Marcos were deposed two weeks ago, no one knew the extent of Mrs. Marcos' extravagance.

Some of Mrs. Marcos' personal articles could be found in a dressing room next to her bedroom, but the bulk of her clothing was in a basement below the family's private quarters.

There, in a room measuring about 21 by 21 metres, were hundreds of Mrs. Marcos' clothes, shoes and accessories, arranged neatly in racks or shelves. A stack of Louis Vuitton suitcases lay on the floor, near a seven-foot high mirror.

"It looked like a mini-department store, but it was bizarre.

Everything was the same size," British photo journalist Alex Bowie, who visited the basement while covering U.S. Rep. Stephen Solarz last weekend, told the Associated Press.

The Manila newspaper Times Journal Mooday reported Bea Zobel, the wife of a wealthy Filipino industrialist, as saying she was flabbergasted by the opulent display.

Mrs. Zobel, who volunteered to help president Corazon Aquino's government sort out the Marcoses' possessions at the palace said bills left in drawers showed Mrs. Marcos at one time bought \$1 million worth of jewellery in the morning and antiques totalling \$2 million later in the afternoon, according to the report.

The journal, owned by a brother of Mrs. Marcos, said receipt was also recovered which showed she had run up a \$107,000 tab for an evening gown and six silk dresses from the Italian designer Valentino. The clothes had been sold at the palace, the bill showed.

The report said there were an estimated 3,000 pairs of shoes, many of them expensive editions from name designers such as

Gucci, Ungaro and Charles Jordan.

There were also 68 pairs of gloves, and in one corner were five shelves of unused Gucci handbags, all with their price tags attached.

Asked several years ago to explain her lavish lifestyle, Mrs. Marcos replied, "Filipinos want beauty. I have to look beautiful so that the poor Filipinos will have a star to look at from their slums."

The articles were left behind when Mrs. Marcos and her family hastily fled the palace Feb. 25, after it became clear they had lost the people's support.

Mrs. Marcos is believed to have taken her jewellery, estimated to be worth several million dollars, with her to Hawaii, where the Marcoses are now staying. Most of the jewellery boxes in her quarters were empty, although a cache of pearls said to be among the things she would give as presents to friends remained in a safe in another room.

The government hasn't said what it would do with the Marcoses' personal belongings, but some officials have proposed that they be preserved for the public to see.

## Celebrate The Wearing Of The Green

Irish eyes are smiling on the 17th as we all celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the Marriott.

How do we remember the wearing of the green? Look at what we have in store for Ireland's favorite day:

### AL MANSAF

Traditional, homemade fare the old country way and, in the spirit of the day - half price on all Irish drinks.

### AL RABABA

Join our beer drinking contest and the winner takes home a magnum of champagne. Wear green and all drinks are half price.

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# Liverpool closes on Everton; United loses

**LONDON (Agencies) —** Liverpool moved within two points of Merseyside neighbour and standings leader Everton Saturday by winning 2-1 at Southampton as the English soccer championship race heated up.

With reigning champion Everton playing Sunday for the benefit of live television coverage, Liverpool took advantage of closing the gap, while long-time leader Manchester United lost further ground on the leader by losing 1-0 at Queens Park Rangers.

Liverpool had to come from behind with goals by John Wark and Ian Rush after Southampton had taken the lead at the dell through George Lawrence.

Although Liverpool now has 63 points to Everton's 65, the champion has two games in hand and can regain its five point advantage by beating fourth placed Chelsea at home Sunday.

A single goal by John Byrne gave Rangers the edge over a Manchester side, whose season has nose-dived.

United left its off-form Welsh international striker, Mark Hughes — expected to join Spanish champion Barcelona at the end of the season — out of its line-up, and introduced new signing Peter Davenport, an English international.

But the change failed to spur the team although Davenport had a goal disallowed and co-striker Frank Stapleton missed an easy

chance. Manchester United remained in third place in the standings with inactive Chelsea staying fourth. Arsenal downed West Ham United 1-0 to leapfrog into fifth place over its London neighbour, whose English international defender, Alvin Martin, was sent off.

Tony Woodcock, who is expected to be one of Martin's team-mates in the England squad for this summer's World Cup finals in Mexico, scored Arsenal's goal with 13 minutes remaining.

Oxford United, which secured its first ever trip to Wembley in the Milk Cup final during the week, eased its relegation worries by becoming only the second visiting team this season to post a league victory on Luton Town's artificial surface.

Oxford, which faces Queens Park Rangers in the April 20 final, came from behind to win 2-1.

As the relegation dog-fight intensified, Aston Villa, the team Oxford beat to gain the final, scrambled a point at Nottingham Forest.

As a result of its 1-1 draw, Villa crept closer in the standings to the team above — Ipswich Town — which squandered a 1-0 lead and

lost 3-1 at Newcastle United.

Villa's central English neighbours, Birmingham City and West Bromwich Albion, wasted their home games and slipped closer to the drop. Birmingham tumbled 1-2 to improving Tottenham Hotspur while Albion was held 2-2 by Leicester City.

Hearts equalled the Scottish Premier League record of 24 games without defeat with a smooth 2-0 home win over bottom club Motherwell in Edinburgh.

Goals by player-manager Alex MacDonald and John Robertson kept Hearts firmly at the top with 39 points from 28 games and there was further good news when the three chasing clubs all dropped points.

Second-placed Dundee United slipped three points behind — though they have two games in hand — by drawing 1-1 at Celtic while Aberdeen fell four points adrift after sharing the spoils at St. Mirren.

Davie Dodds put United ahead in the first half but Celtic, lying handily-placed in fourth spot, snatched an 81st minute equaliser through Murdoch MacLeod.

Aberdeen seldom do well at Paisley and that run appeared to be continuing when Steve Clarke shot St. Mirren in front. International sweeper Willie Miller, frustrated by the efforts of his strikers, salvaged what could be a crucial point for Aberdeen in the dying minutes.

## Werder maintains lead over Bayern

**FRANKFURT, West Germany (AP) —** Werder Bremen clinched a 2-0 away victory over Eintracht Frankfurt Saturday to maintain its four-point lead in the West German First Soccer Division over Bayern Munich.

Bayern, completely recovered from its shock 3-2 defeat at home, against Fortuna Dueseldorf one week ago, went on the road to thrash Waldhof Mannheim 4-0.

Veteran striker Dieter Hoeneß scored twice within the first 15 minutes to pace the defending champions as Bayern fired in all four goals in the first half.

Borussia Mönchengladbach led twice but had to settle for a 2-2 draw away to Bochum to safeguard its third place.

Struggling Fortuna Dueseldorf failed to continue its giant-killing march and was buried 7-0 at home

by Stuttgart.

Juergen Klinsmann paced the visitors to become the first Bundesliga player this season to score five goals in one match and bring his championship total to 12.

Hamburger SV had an easy 4-0 victory at home over FC Saarbrücken to stay in the fourth place.

Bayern, playing without injured international sweeper Klaus Augenthaler, shocked 30,000 Mannheim fans with a furious offensive in the opening minutes.

Hoeneß was the hero of the victory, heading in Bayern's first goal in the 7th minute, setting up Norbert Nachtweh's in the 15th and then picking up a loose ball to drive home from close range two minutes later to give the Bavarians an unbeatable lead just 15 min-

utes into the match.

Roland Wohlfarth capitalised on another dreadful mistake by Mannheim's defenders to score Bayern's fourth goal in the 34th.

Werder Bremen survived Eintracht Frankfurt's domination for most of the game and kept its championship hopes high with two late goals.

Frankfurt wasted a score of promising scoring opportunities and paid the price for its inefficiency in front of the goal.

Guenter Hermann gave Bremen the lead in the 79th minute with a drive from the edge of the area and Japanese international Yasukino Okudra, who replaced Norbert Meier in the 74th, got the insurance goal in the last minute, disappointing 25,000 Frankfurt fans.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### FIFA lifts ban on Kuwait

**KUWAIT (R) —** The Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) has lifted a soccer ban on Kuwait, enabling it to take part in a Gulf Arab tournament in Bahrain this month, the Kuwait News Agency KUNA said. The ban was imposed in January after what FIFA said were violations of its regulations, amid turmoil in the local administration of the game stemming from alleged misuse of state funds. KUNA quoted Kuwait Football Association (KFA) Chairman Abdul Aziz Al Makhleh as saying FIFA advised the KFA of the lifting of the ban last evening. Kuwait, he said, would thus be able to take part in the eighth Gulf Soccer Championship from March 20 to April 7. Kuwait has won the title four times.

### Boxer falls into coma after fight

**LONDON (AP) —** Scottish welterweight champion Steve Watt was "critical but stable" after sinking into a coma following a non-title fight Friday night, a hospital official said Saturday. Watt, who was fighting local favourite Rocky Kelly at the West London Hotel, collapsed as he returned to his corner after the fight had been stopped in Kelly's favour, according to a report by the British domestic news agency, Press Association. The agency quoted Carol Gunn, wife of the 27-year-old fighter's manager, Dick Gunn, as saying: "Steve did not appear to have fallen as a result of a knock-out. He just collapsed as he walked back to his corner." P.A. said Watt was carried from the ring on a stretcher and taken immediately to nearby Charing Cross Hospital, where surgeons operated to remove a blood clot.

## Favoured Algeria makes an early exit, travels home

By Hamza Hendawi

Reuter

**ALEXANDRIA, Egypt —** Tipped at the outset as hot favourites, World Cup finalists Algeria were leaving for home Saturday after failing to reach the second round of the African Nations' Cup.

They blamed their lacklustre performance in Group B on the absence of key players and promised the world would see a different side in Mexico, where they are drawn in a group with Spain, Northern Ireland and mighty Brazil.

In their round-robin matches here, they drew 0-0 with both Zambia and fellow Mexico finalists Morocco and went down 2-3 to more powerful Cameroun Friday night after leading 1-0 20 minutes into the second half.

"The Zambia match was crucial and the fact we drew made our next encounter against Cameroun more difficult," coach Rabah Saadane told reporters.

"Cameroun's equaliser had a negative psychological effect on my players after which we started to make mistakes in defence," he added.

Among key players missing from Algeria's squad were striker

## Egypt, Morocco to face off in Cairo

By Hamza Hendawi

Reuter

**ALEXANDRIA, Egypt —** World Cup finalists Morocco moved to Cairo Saturday to prepare for what promises to be a heated clash with host team Egypt on Monday in the semi-finals of the African Nations' Football Cup.

Ivory Coast, meanwhile, travelled from Cairo to this Mediterranean city for their same day tie against titleholders Cameroun, most prolific scorers in the tournament so far.

The final round-robin placings, decided in Alexandria Friday guarantee an Arab-African final in Cairo March 21.

Egypt have long been looking forward to a chance to replay Morocco and avenge the 0-2 aggregate defeat with which the able North Africans eliminated them from the World Cup qualifying rounds last year.

Egypt held Morocco to a scoreless draw on home territory in July but Morocco won the return match 2-0 two weeks later.

The Monday match is expected to attract a capacity crowd to Cairo's 100,000-seat International Stadium, the largest in Africa, and Morocco's Brazilian-born coach Jose Faria conceded this might give the hosts an edge.

"They will have the crowd, but we will have ourselves to rely on and I trust this," he told Reuters.

"The Egyptians have changed a little since July and will be out for revenge. But I'm certain my players still have more in reserve and we are going all the way up," he added.

The vocal Egyptian spectators helped throw Ivory Coast off bal-

ance to give the Egyptians a 2-0 victory last Monday. Ivorian trainer Pancho Gonzales said the din intimidated his unfortunate team.

"My players were terrified. But the situation would be completely different if we were to meet the Egyptians again," Gonzales told reporters.

The home squad heard some welcome news Friday when the organising committee announced that star striker Taher Abu Zeid, top scorer in the 1984 cup in Abidjan, could play Monday.

Abu Zeid got his second warning of the event last Thursday for parading round the track in triumph after his second goal against Mozambique clinched Egypt's semi-final berth.

But the committee overruled Tanzanian referee Hafiz Ali Taher on the grounds that the misdemeanour was not sufficiently grave for a full warning. Egypt, who last won the African Nations' Cup in 1959 and last played in a final in 1962, have traditionally been an inconsistent side, dependent on enthusiasm rather than tactics.

They finished top of the Cairo Group A round-robin with 2-0 wins over Ivory Coast and Mozambique, following a shock 0-1 defeat by Senegal in the eight-nation tournament's first match on March 7.

For Morocco, France-based striker Merry Krimau, has been the key man behind Morocco's journey to Cairo.

The Le Havre forward scored the goal that eliminated Zambia 1-0 Friday night and gave his team a 1-0 lead against Cameroun on Tuesday before Roger Milla equalised for the titleholders in the dying minutes of the match.

Krimau teams up well with Aziz Bouderbals of Swiss club Sion, who provided two passes from which Krimau scored against both Zambia and Cameroun.

Cameroun, with seven goals to their credit from the three round-robin matches, are riding a wave of confidence after their dramatic triumph over Algeria Friday night.

Their ability to recover from initial setbacks has captured the imaginations of the small but appreciative crowds that turned out to watch them here.

Milla, a 33-year-old striker with France's St. Etienne, has proved to be Cameroun's most valuable possession, scoring three goals and setting up another three in as many matches.

An opportunist with an excellent sense of position, Milla has proved closely in tune with Ernest Ebongue and Louis Paul Mfede in attack.

"We play fancy football that entertains the crowd, who must always go home thinking they got their money's worth," Cameroun coach Claude Le Roy told Reuters.

"My players are in high morale and they are physically fit. We are ready for two hours of football if need be," he added before a training session concentrating on defence tactics.

Ivory Coast are no less of a force to reckon with and Le Roy said their forward trio of Youssouf Fofana, Abdoulaye Traore and Pascal N'dri was likely to menace his defenders.

Ivory coast lost 0-2 to Egypt and beat Mozambique 3-0 before edging Senegal 1-0 for a semi-final berth on goal difference.

## Lopes to miss marathon title defence

**LISBON (R) —** Olympic marathon champion Carlos Lopes, who is struggling to recover his form after injury problems, will not defend his title at the World Cross Country Championships in Switzerland on March 23.

The 34-year-old Portuguese athlete, whose single-minded pursuit of excellence has made him a national hero, is not included in the Portuguese men's team to take part in the championships at Neuchatel.

The reason for Lopes' absence is his poor form. In the Tokyo marathon last month, he disappointed both himself and his fans by pulling out after 19 kilometres complaining of leg pains.

"I was in the best physical condition... but I had to race to honour commitments made," he

later told reporters.

Lopes has been struggling to regain winning form since April last year when he set a world best time of two hours seven minutes 11 seconds in the Rotterdam Marathon.

Beset by injury since then, Lopes, a taciturn and enigmatic athlete, has kept a low profile and did not run in the National Cross Country Championships this

month.

The 1984 Olympic marathon gold medalist had announced that 1985 would be his last year in competition but has since said he wants to win one more major international marathon.

"A marathon in the United States some time at the end of the year would be a strong possibility," he said.

## Lendl stops fellow Czech

**MILAN, Italy (R) —** World number one Ivan Lendl beat fellow-Czechoslovak Miloslav Mecir 7-5 6-4 Saturday to reach the final of the Milan Grand Prix tennis tournament.

Lendl took one hour 47 minutes to overcome his opponent and book a place in the final against the winner of the other all-Swedish semifinal between Anders Jarryd and Joakim Nyström.

It was Lendl's 21st consecutive win in Grand Prix tennis this year and the first time the two Czechoslovaks had met on the Grand

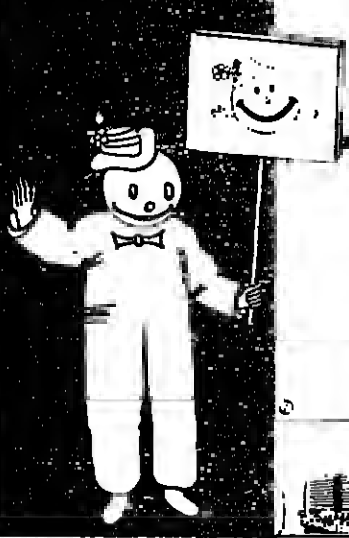
Prix circuit.

Lendl was made to work hard for his first set lead as his rival opened powerfully, Mecir, serving cleanly and effectively, swept the first game without dropping a point.

He appeared to have made the vital breakthrough in the ninth game when he broke Mecir's serve to lead 5-4. Mecir hit back immediately though, breaking Lendl's serve to draw even at 5-5. But Lendl broke Mecir again and then held serve to take the first set.

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### TIME

**WHEELING OUT THE STARS —** Parliamentary Elections in France President Left/Premier Right?


**THE FACE THAT VANISHED —** Sweden mourns murdered Prime Minister.

**THE HAUNTING OF KURT WALDHEIM —** Austria unveils story of candidate's war years

**LAMB BRAINS FOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS —** France boycotts New Zealand products

**SPACE CRAFT MEETS COMET —** Soviet Union space craft photographs Halley's Comet

**BREAKING UNION SHACKLES —** Publishers Shah and Murdoch break union veto on publishing technology



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**FAST FORWARD**  
(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15



**INQUILAAB**  
(Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 6:30, 8:00



**ROCK 'n' ROLL HIGH SCHOOL**  
(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30



## Cairo allows private companies to import essential food items

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian government, facing a foreign currency crisis, has moved towards cutting state subsidies while protecting the poor by authorising private firms to import essential food items.

Supply and Internal Trade Minister Nagi Shatta issued a decree Friday cancelling an old law banning private firms from importing vital goods such as sugar, tea, cooking oil, rice, meat and poultry.

These goods have been sold at subsidised prices in state-owned cooperative shops against ration cards.

The semi-official daily Al-Ahram said this was the first time the private sector had been allowed to import essential food into Egypt, where the state has played a major economic role since the early 1950s.

It will allow private traders to import and sell basic foods to better-off Egyptians prepared to pay more for better quality goods without queuing, while poorer people will still be able to buy them at low prices in cooperatives.

The decree appeared in line with government efforts to raise prices of basic goods — subsidised

by the state at a cost of more than \$2 billion a year — and respect presidential orders not to disadvantage the poor.

Prime Minister Ali Lutfi told Al-Ahram in an interview published Friday he would soon announce new measures to ensure subsidised goods reached only those who deserve them.

To control prices of privately-imported goods, the government decree set the maximum legal profit at 30 per cent.

Egypt, burdened by a \$30 billion foreign debt, imports half the food needed for its 49 million people.

A recent sharp drop in dollar earnings from oil, tourism and transfers home by expatriate workers has heightened its economic crisis.

The government has been under pressure from the United States and other creditors to cut subsidies and raise prices of sensitive consumer items such as food, fuel and electricity.

Washington Thursday agreed to release \$150 million in aid, frozen last month pending economic reforms, to help Egypt tackle the crisis.

## Norway to raise taxes, prune public spending

OSLO (R) — Norway, hard hit by tumbling world prices for the oil it produces, said Friday it would raise selected consumer taxes and prune public spending to recoup lost state revenue.

Finance Minister Rolf Presthus said the austerity package, sent to parliament for approval, would raise two billion crowns (\$285 million). He warned it could be just the first in a series of measures needed to compensate for a predicted 69 per cent drop in state oil revenue this year.

"Very few Norwegians understand the disaster lower oil prices spell for our country," Mr. Presthus commented.

He said most of the money would be raised through higher taxes on tobacco, alcohol, meat

and petrol. The news sparked panic-buying in supermarkets and state-run liquor stores throughout the country.

The tax rises would boost the litre price of petrol to about 75 cents and cancel any benefit that Norway's motorists might have gained from the fall in world oil prices.

Also announced were cuts totalling some 700 million crowns (\$100 million) in food and industrial subsidies, and in military spending.

The fall in earnings from Norway's oil and gas sales, which account for nearly 40 per cent of the country's export trade, threatens to push the foreign trade balance into deficit for the first time since 1977, Mr. Presthus said.

## African recovery scheme likely to cost \$115 billion

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Africa's economic recovery programme, aimed at rescuing the continent from the brink of disaster, is likely to cost around \$115 billion, the executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa said Friday.

Professor Adebayo Adedeji told a conference of African and U.N. economic officials that African nations could contribute \$80 billion of this amount, while the rest would have to come from foreign governments and international agencies.

He said that if the continent's debt servicing burden remained high and world prices of minerals

and foodstuffs, Africa's main exports, remained low, the efforts towards economic recovery would be futile.

But he said he was confident other countries would survive to help Africa meet the financial gap in its programme.

The campaign to reverse Africa's economic decline was launched last year, spurred by widespread drought.

The two-day conference which Professor Adedeji opened is one of a series leading up to a special meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in late May that will focus on Africa's economic decline and ways of ending it.

## Clausen urges revising current protectionist trends

LONDON (R) — World Bank President A.W. Clausen said Friday that Third World countries faced an increasingly grim future unless current trends towards greater trade protectionism were reversed.

Addressing the Commonwealth Secretariat in London, Mr. Clausen, who steps down this year as head of the international development organisation, also called for increased long-term economic aid for poor nations.

He said growing protectionism by industrialised states had already caused a steep decline in the

growth of exports from developing nations.

"Unless this trend can be halted and reversed, severe global macroeconomic problems of both debt-servicing and growth lie ahead," Mr. Clausen said.

"Protectionism must be rolled back and access to markets must be assured," he added.

Africa's relentless economic decline, Mr. Clausen said, was partially the result of the failure of rich nations to maintain and increase aid levels. Unless the situation improved, millions of people would be consigned to a future of indefinite poverty.

## Turkey devalues lira by 5%

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has effectively devalued the lira by around five per cent and extended foreign exchange controls to end a week of turmoil on foreign currency markets.

The central bank said Friday night that commercial banks must from now on buy and sell foreign currency to customers only at rates within one per cent of the levels it sets daily.

It had freed them from such restrictions last July as part of a plan to achieve full convertibility for the currency. Bank remain free to set rates in dealings with other banks.

The central bank set its new buying for the U.S. dollar at 645.00 liras, a devaluation of 4.97 per cent from 612.95 on Friday. The lira's value was reduced between 4.9 and 6.8 per cent against other currencies.

The central bank for more than two years has gradually devalued the currency, roughly in line with inflation now at around 40 per cent, to maintain the competitiveness of Turkey's exports.

The move followed a week of turmoil on foreign exchange markets, during which the dollar became almost unobtainable in Istanbul. Bankers said the lira had been hit by importers building up foreign currency reserves to pay off future debts and by exporters delaying the return of their earnings to Turkey because they expected the lira to slump against the dollar.

## Horoscope and crosswords not received

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week ending Saturday, March 8, '86 and ending Wednesday, March 12, 1986 (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of Trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
<b>Banking &amp; financial institutions</b>					
Jordan Islamic Bank	1565	3642	2.340	2.270	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	7125	16559	2.350	2.300	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	5210	7968	1.530	1.530	1.000
Housing Bank	253350	380015	1.490	1.500	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	3397	6961	2.120	2.050	1.000
Industrial Development Bank	501550	777403	1.560	1.550	1.000
Petra Bank	28872	77498	2.630	2.650	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	5066	154073	27.750	31.900	5.000
Bank of Jordan	1361	28745	20.000	21.250	5.000
Arab Bank	660	90482	140.000	175.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	18376	47346	2.530	2.590	1.000
Jordan Finance House	6200	5292	0.840	0.840	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	5346	5450	1.020	1.020	1.000
Islamic Investment House	85353	74983	0.870	0.930	1.000
Jordan Investment & Finance Corporation	36831	26058	1.200	1.220	1.000
Finance & Credit Corporation	84690	31298	0.880	0.870	1.000
National Financial Investments	16300	19775	1.230	1.220	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	6755	4821	0.720	0.720	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqar)	7000	4551	0.650	0.650	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	631	770	1.230	1.230	1.000
<b>Insurance</b>					
Jordan Insurance	3450	38883	11.200	11.300	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	6785	16569	2.600	2.500	1.000
REFCO Insurance	1041	561	1.030	1.050	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	20441	29383	1.440	1.410	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	130	3250	25.000	25.000	10.000
Arabian Seas Insurance	14110	3303	2.250	2.400	1.000
Al Arab Insurance & Reinsurance	4364	3707	0.830	0.830	1.000
Universal Insurance	985	798	0.820	0.820	1.000
Philadelphus Insurance	1050	1008	0.960	0.960	1.000
Petra Insurance	12401	6517	0.530	0.500	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	250	220	0.870	0.880	1.000
Al Yarmouk Insurance	2014	1611	0.850	0.800	1.000
<b>Services and industries</b>					
Jordan Electric Power	19132	28318	1.470	1.480	1.000
National Shipping Lines	300	213	0.720	0.710	1.000
Jordan Dairy	3017	3543	1.180	1.170	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	20065	64092	3.200	3.210	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	24320	17132	0.720	0.700	1.000
Jordan Paper & Cardboard Factories	3340	8807	2.620	2.620	1.000
Jordan Phosphates Mines	17131	36944	2.000	2.210	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	6161	12172	1.980	1.960	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries	1030	1266	1.210	1.230	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergents	2094	8648	4.120	4.130	1.000
Alladin Industries	4783	3348	0.700	0.700	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes	32	432	13.250	13.500	5.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	33480	29445	0.900	0.880	1.000
Arab International Hotels	24300	9255	0.390	0.380	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	3091	11254	3.600	3.550	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	6090	5607	0.920	0.920	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	31750	41882	1.270	1.340	1.000
Chemical Industries	1000	985	1.000	0.990	1.000
Jordan Industries and Matches	25424	16971	0.690	0.680	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development & Investment	5202	7804	1.500	1.500	1.000
National Steel Industries	16374	19336	1.150	1.200	1.000
Jordan Tanning	4680	9102	1.910	1.950	1.000
Jordan Leasing Equipment	9406	6627	0.710	0.700	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	4864	4418	0.870	0.850	1.000
General Mining	2631	4236	1.620	1.610	1.000
Arab Paper Converting & Trading	4050	1215	0.300	0.300	1.000
Petra for Projects & Leasing	11375	3185	0.790	0.780	1.000
Rafia Plastic Bags	500	550	1.100	1.100	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5067	33509	6.620	6.620	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	13100	3712	0.290	0.280	1.000
Jordan Breweries	200	640	3.200	3.200	1.000
Jordan for Printing & Packaging	55	206	4.000	3.750	1.000
Woolen Industries	1300	1105	0.850	0.850	1.000
Jordan Fertiliser	21	51	2.500	2.450	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries	1000	330	0.350	0.350	1.000
National Industries	32625	29145	0.850	0.850	1.000
Irish District Electricity	120	127	1.100	1.050	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	867	4862	5.560	5.600	1.000
Grand total	1470535	2300320			

## OIC ministers study setting up data network

ISTANBUL (R) — A trade information network to promote commerce between Islamic countries is one of the schemes under examination at a weekend trade conference here.

Language and geographical differences and communications difficulties have limited trade among the 46 Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) states, a feasibility study on the project by the Islamic Centre for the Development of Trade (ICDT) in Casablanca says.

Lack of external outlets hampers development of local industries and prevents them being competitive, the report says.

The study says opening up the markets at an inter-community level, based on reliable data, is essential for the promotion of industries in the member states.

The report, expected to be approved by the OIC trade ministers' meeting ending Sunday, says it would cost \$3.3 million over three years to set up the network.

It would comprise five different databases accessible by both government trade officials and the private sector, covering statistics,

trade regulations and information, an index of foreign trade operators and a bibliographical data bank.

The trade information section would effectively be an automated service of announcements of import needs and export offers, paid for like newspaper advertisements.

Information would be centrally stored at the ICDT in Casablanca, with each member state and different regions having "antennae" to collate and process the information.

The study says setting up the network posed no problems but success would depend on the determination of member states and individuals.

The next step, it says, would be for the member states to set up individual studies to make their own officials aware of the plan and to choose the institutions that would operate it.

## U.S. wholesale prices register record low

WASHINGTON (R) — Tumbling oil prices contributed to the biggest drop in U.S. wholesale prices ever recorded last month, the government said Friday.

The Labour Department said the producer price index (PPI) fell 1.6 per cent in February, the largest one-month decline since the department began tabulating the index in 1947.

In a separate report, the U.S. central bank said U.S. industrial production fell 0.6 per cent last month after a rise of only 0.1 per cent in January.

Analysts said the lower wholesale prices held out the prospect of even further drops in interest rates. Lower rates have fuelled recent rallies in the stock and bond markets.

Analysts say lower rates should quicken U.S. economic growth by reducing the cost of capital for businesses so they can expand and by lowering borrowing costs for consumers, which should increase demand.

The February drop in the PPI followed a decline of 0.7 per cent in January. The index measures prices paid for goods by wholesalers.

In addition to record declines in energy prices, the cost of many food items decreased last month, the Labour Department said.

"Certainly the decline in prices is favourable and will lead to a pick-up in economic activity," said economic forecaster, Mr. Donald Ratajczak of Georgia State University.

The declines in the PPI in the first two months of the year translate into a rate of wholesale deflation of 12.6 per cent on an annual basis.

The report was good news for the Reagan administration.

"We expect to see every segment of American society enjoying this fourth year of the Reagan economic recovery," White House spokesman, Mr. Larry Speakes said.

Credit for the lower prices went to the drop in energy costs. Crude oil prices fell more than 20 per cent, a one-month drop that equalled the net decline of the previous four years, the department said.

While bringing benefits, the steep drop in oil prices has raised fears of the impact on oil industry profits, the economic health of regions which depend on the industry, banks with energy loans, and the ability of debtor nations like Mexico and Venezuela to keep up their debt repayments.

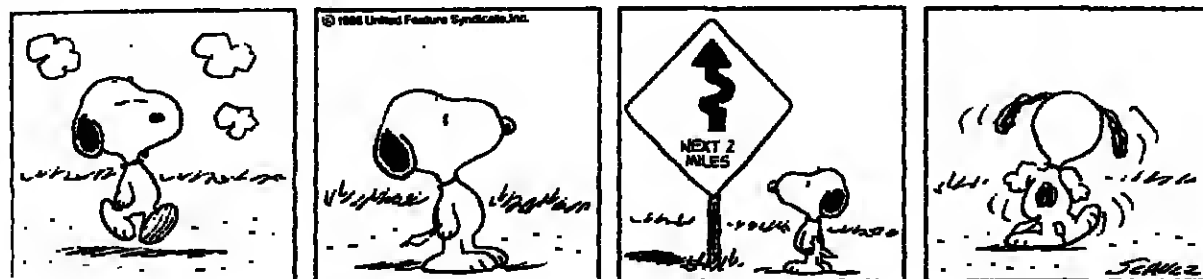
In one sign of the impact of lower energy prices, the report on industrial production showed output down sharply for the mining sector, which covers oil exploration.

Industrial drop is largest, widespread

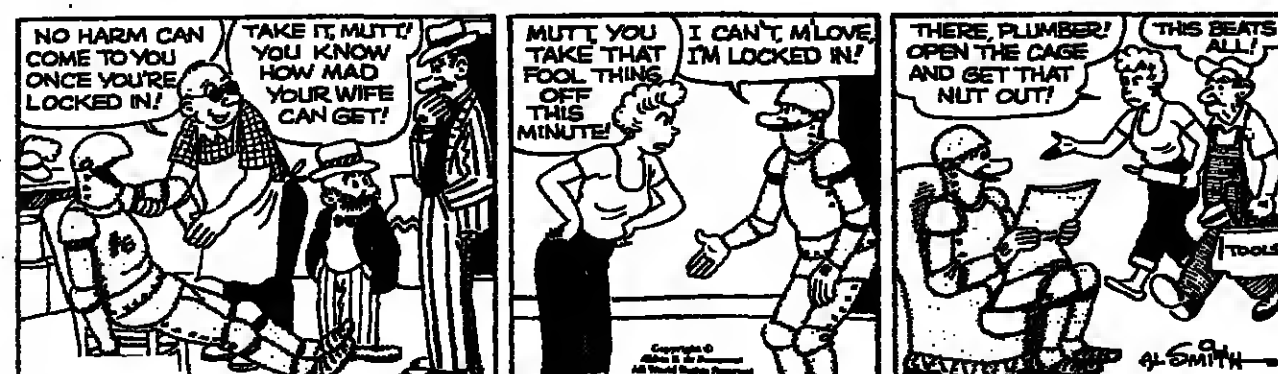
The central bank said the industrial production drop was the largest since October and was widespread throughout U.S. industries. Manufacturing output fell after three straight months of gains.

In a separate report, the Commerce Department said businesses raised the level of their inventories by 0.7 per cent in January as sales fell 0.3 per cent.

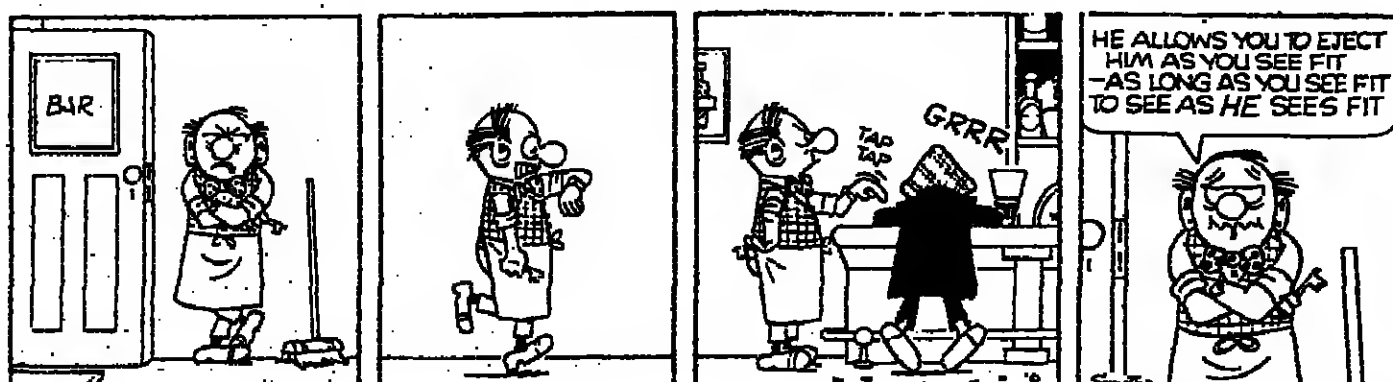
## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp

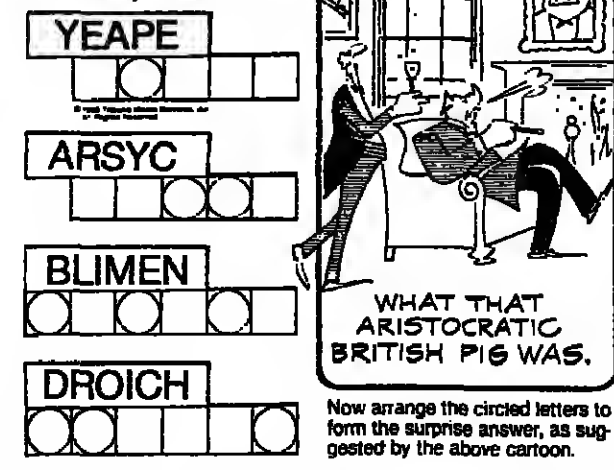


## THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE "O O O O O" OF THE "O O O O O" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: ANNUL MACAW REFUGEE TARGET Answer: What's the best-looking figure in geometry?—"A-CUTE" ANGLE



# Aquino asks U.S. to act swiftly on Marcos millions

MANILA (R) — A senior aide to President Corason Aquino has called on the United States to act swiftly and help the Philippines recover the vast foreign holdings of ousted President Ferdinand Marcos.

Joker Arroyo was quoted by Manila newspapers Saturday as telling reporters he hoped Washington would not "treat us the way it treated Ayatollah Khomeini in connection with the wealth of the Shah (of Iran)."

The Aquino government would not be satisfied until it could recover the "hidden wealth" of Marcos, his family and associates, Mr. Arroyo said.

Mr. Marcos, now in Hawaii, won a temporary reprieve Friday when a federal judge in Honolulu blocked access to hundreds of documents the former leader whisked out of the Philippines when he left on Feb. 26.

Jovito Salonga, head of the Commission on Good Government set up by Mrs. Aquino, said in Washington that U.S. con-

gressmen had pledged to help recover Marcos family assets.

Mr. Salonga has estimated these are worth up to \$10 billion.

In Washington, U.S. congressman Stephen Solarz, a bitter critic of Marcos, said he planned to subpoena documents about the former president's financial assets.

Mr. Solarz said Marcos' "determination to prevent the (U.S.) customs service from turning over these papers... would appear to confirm what we have suspected all along — that Mr. Marcos has a great deal to hide."

A former manager of Manila airport was quoted by the Daily Express newspaper Saturday, as saying he withdrew \$5 million pesos (\$2.5 million) in cash from an airport bank account but han-

ded the money to a Marcos aide before last month's presidential election.

Audit commissioner Teofisto Guingona said Friday Louie Tabuena had withdrawn the money and it could still not be accounted for.

The Daily Express quoted Tabuena as saying he withdrew the money on instructions from "people upstairs" who promised to "fix it up" after the elections.

He said he had handed the cash to Fe Jimenez, a private secretary of Marcos, who fled the country with his boss.

Mrs. Aquino will have to make radical reforms to secure a ceasefire between the military and Communist guerrillas, according to a Communist official quoted Saturday by the New York Times.

A man using the pseudonym Andres Del Fierro told the newspaper that reconciliation depended upon whether Mrs. Aquino could reform the military and dismantle what he called the "fascist

structure" of local politics and private armies created by ousted President Ferdinand Marcos.

"We are not optimistic Mrs. Aquino can succeed in this," Del Fierro said.

He told the newspaper he spoke for the Communist Party's Central Committee, which met last week to discuss the new Aquino government.

Del Fierro, who gave his age as 34, said the Communist New People's Army (NPA) would refuse to go along with any ceasefire agreement that required it to surrender its arms.

"With fascism still intact, the Filipino people need their own army to assert their interest,"

Del Fierro emphasised that one of Mrs. Aquino's most difficult problems will be reforming the military.

Del Fierro dismissed statements by U.S. and Philippine officials who have said they expected the Communist strength to diminish with Mrs. Aquino's victory.

## Gorbachev calls for responsive propaganda

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev has told editors of the Soviet Union's official media that they must be active propagandists for the ruling Communist Party while keeping in touch with ordinary people's concerns.

Mr. Gorbachev said the media must maintain "frank and straightforward" discussions on ways of carrying out decisions approved at the party's 27th Congress last month, TASS News Agency reported.

In particular, the media must publicise the party's drive to bring discipline and efficiency to public and economic life in the face of "class enemies, who go out of their way to sow mistrust in the realism of our plans," he said.

But he added that concern about people should be as important in the media as concern about boosting production.

"In newspapers and TV and radio programmes, life itself must be pulsing so that workers can hear in their own language what new developments are taking place in their everyday life," he said.

Family life and the chastisement of excessive bureaucracy should be major media themes, he added.

The months between Mr. Gorbachev's rise to power in March last year and the congress saw unprecedented criticism in the media of social and economic shortcomings, many associated with the late President Leonid Brezhnev whose rule was denounced at the five-yearly gathering.

But Western diplomats said that disagreements emerged at the congress about how far public criticism should go.

Kremlin number two Yegor Ligachev, in charge of ideology, stood out in particular as opposing too frank a discussion of party privileges and corruption.

Mr. Ligachev attended Friday's meeting along with senior editors of TASS, the newspapers Pravda and Izvestia and state radio and television.

## U.S.-Soviet ties hinge on regional solutions - Reagan

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has said the resolution of regional conflicts was fundamental to U.S.-Soviet relations and expressed some optimism that Moscow might reassess what he called its "murderous policies."

But he said in a message to congress: "Unless we build barriers to Soviet ambitions and create incentives for Soviet restraint, Soviet policies will remain a source of danger and the most important obstacle to the future spread of freedom."

The message, which a senior government official said contained nothing "all that new," appeared to be an updated version of Mr. Reagan's 1985 speech to the U.N. General Assembly.

In that address, he called for U.S.-Soviet cooperation in resolving regional struggles and said such conflicts had a prominent place in relations between Washington and Moscow.

In Friday's written message Mr. Reagan said the American people "believe in human rights and oppose tyranny in whatever form, whether of the left or the right."

The senior official said this did not represent any policy change.

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick appeared to put a slightly different emphasis on U.S. human rights policy during her tenure. She had said the policy held that "traditional authoritarian" regimes were less repressive, more susceptible to change and better for American interests than Marxist-style rulers.

The senior administration official, who briefed reporters on condition that he not be identified, acknowledged that the release of the message was "a bit coincidental" with Mr. Reagan's up-battle for congressional approval of \$100 million in aid to rebels fighting the Nicaraguan government.

"They clearly are related," the official said. "I don't think there's anything all that new. It's more a matter of integration of what we've been doing."

In his message, Mr. Reagan criticised what he called Soviet expansionism around the world, calling it "a disturbing pattern."

U.S. special envoy Philip Habib Friday was quoted as saying President Reagan was committed to toppling Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

Mr. Habib made the remarks to Salvadoran leaders at a meeting in San Salvador on Wednesday, sources close to the meeting said Friday. "He said the Sandinistas had to go," said one government insider who asked not to be identified.

Reagan administration officials have said repeatedly that it does not seek to topple the Sandinistas but only wants peace in Central America.

Mr. Reagan himself has said Mr. Habib's mission is to find a diplomatic solution to regional conflicts. The Reagan administration supports rebels battling the Managua government.

Mr. Habib visited El Salvador to discuss a recent peace initiative by Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte linking peace talks in El Salvador to talks between the Nicaraguan rebels and the Sandinistas.

Government insiders here said Mr. Duarte's plan was actually authored by Washington to drum up support for Mr. Reagan's proposal for \$100 million in military aid for the Nicaraguan rebels, who are known as Contras.

An informed source said Mr. Habib told Mr. Duarte that the Salvadoran leader might be needed in Washington to lobby for the aid package ahead of a vote on the proposal by the House of Representatives next week.

The source said Mr. Duarte hoped to avoid such a visit. The sources close to the Wednesday meeting also said Washington had pressed Mr. Duarte to introduce the peace initiative under his own name to bolster U.S. congressional support for aid to the Contras.

"This was not Mr. Duarte's own initiative," said one source close to the talks.

Military sources said Washington did not appear to take the initiative seriously but sought to use it to boost Mr. Reagan's lobbying efforts in Congress.

## Actor James Cagney hospitalised

NEW YORK (R) — Actor James Cagney, 86, has been admitted to a New York hospital suffering from a circulatory disorder in his legs, a hospital spokeswoman has said. The spokeswoman at Lenox Hill Hospital said his condition was satisfactory and he was in good spirits and should be released in a few days. "Basically he is in for an evaluation of the circulatory disorder in his legs," she said. Cagney, who starred in 61 films becoming one of Hollywood's biggest stars, lives in semi-retirement in upstate New York.

## Soviet press reports shortage of medicines

MOSCOW (R) — Many parts of the Soviet Union are suffering from a shortage of medicines, according to a medical newspaper which blamed poor organisation in the state health service. The twice-weekly Meditsinskaya Gazeta (Medical Gazette) said insulin, antibiotics and medicines for digestive, cardio-vascular and children's disorders were often scarce in many areas while a few regions had more than they needed. It singled out bad planning by health authorities and the failure of pharmaceutical factories in Moscow, Odessa and the Siberian towns of Novosibirsk and Tomsk to fulfil production targets.

## Models file suit after fake training course

BUDAPEST (R) — Several Hungarian women have filed suit against a cooperative which took their money in exchange for a fake training course in nude modelling. The official Hungarian News Agency MTI said: "Now the ladies are demanding the school fee back, together with the negatives of the nude photos allegedly taken of them." The agency said in a brief report. The women paid a monthly fee of 1,500 forints (about \$35) for the five-month course which promised a certificate and permanent model's jobs. "But it turned out before the course ended that the cooperative has no right to provide qualification certificates," the agency said.

## Shanghai children are taller, heavier now

PEKING (R) — Children in Shanghai are now taller and heavier, partly due to China's policy of limiting families to one child each, the New China News Agency said Saturday. The agency said a survey of six-year-old boys in the country's biggest city found they were 1.32 kilograms heavier and 1.71 centimetres taller than their counterparts 10 years ago. The boys now weighed an average 20.7 kilograms and were 117.5 centimetres tall. Similar differences existed between seven-month-old babies now and 10 years ago.

## Peter Sellers' daughter surrenders

NEWARK, New Jersey (R) — Victoria Sellers, actress daughter of the late British comedian Peter Sellers, surrendered to authorities on charges of being a member of an international cocaine ring, officials said. Sellers, 20, whose mother is the Swedish actress Britt Ekland, was charged with her boyfriend, Hollywood talent scout Reed Wallace, and four others of being a member of a ring that sold \$1 million worth of cocaine a week in Los Angeles. She was reported to be talking to drug enforcement officials about cocaine use among her peers in Hollywood's "brat pack" of young actors, police and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) sources said. They said she was talking in hopes of facing reduced charges. She will appear in court sometime over the weekend to face formal charges. Sellers, who is featured nude this month in Playboy magazine, is the last of the six people charged to surrender.

## Rajneesh is still in Ireland

LIMERICK, Ireland (AP) — Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, expelled from Greece and barred from Britain, has a three-month entry permit for Ireland, the Justice Department said Friday. Rajneesh and eight disciples took over a whole floor of Jury's Hotel in Limerick on March 7, according to hotel staff. Asked whether he was still at the hotel, staff members would only say that some members of the entourage were still there.

## France holds Assembly elections today

PARIS (R) — France's right-wing, widely expected to oust the ruling Socialists in parliamentary elections Sunday, have ended their campaign with a plea for a strong majority win.

Final opinion polls predicted a narrow absolute majority for the Gaullist RPR Party and centre-right UDF.

Campaigning ended at midnight on Friday, giving the French a day of silence and exhausted politicians a day's rest.

President Francois Mitterrand says he plans to stay in office whatever the outcome. It would be the first time a Socialist president has "co-babied" with a right-wing government — a result political observers say could lead to constitutional chaos.

Mr. Mitterrand should have his hand strengthened if the right win only a small majority and he uses his choice of prime minister to exacerbate internal divisions on the right.

In a final electoral address on French television Friday night, RPR leader Jacques Chirac issued a plea for a "real majority," capable of assuming the responsibility of supporting a government which wants to change things.

He called for election of government which could re-establish a foreign policy and allow "a certain number of inconsistencies to be avoided — as we have unfortunately seen in the recent past."

Mr. Chirac's apparent reference to a continuing crisis over French hostages in Lebanon — an issue which has overshadowed the election campaign — was his first real criticism of the Socialists' handling of the affair.

Opposition leaders have steered clear of trying to make political capital out of the crisis, which flared last week when Muslim extremists in Beirut said they had executed one of four French hostages held in Lebanon for almost a year.

Four more hostages, from a French television network, were seized in Beirut last weekend. Despite hectic diplomatic efforts the Socialists seemed Friday no nearer to pulling off a last minute electoral coup by securing the hostages' release.

Campaigning largely on the basis of their economic record, the government this week announced three signs of improvements in the economy.

On Wednesday, a negative inflation rate for the first time in 20 years on Thursday, unemployment down 0.4 per cent from January to February on Friday, a small surplus in foreign trade compared to a large deficit last year.

But overall unemployment has increased from 1.8 million to around 2.4 million in five years of Socialist rule.

Meanwhile the Lebanese astrophysicist who predicted an explosion would destroy an American space shuttle said Saturday the Socialists under President Francois Mitterrand would win Sunday's French parliamentary elections.

"My prediction of a Socialist win tomorrow has nothing to do with my own feelings towards the French government," 66-year-old George Tabet told Reuters.

"I have been practising my hobby of predicting events for 20 years and they come as a divine vision," he said.

Tabet, a former petrol company employee who lives in Christian east Beirut, said the Socialist Party would win 51 per cent of the votes with the help of other leftwing parties.

## 5 killed in battle at S. African mine

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Five black miners were killed and about 100 injured in fighting at a gold mine locked in a week-long strike over pay bonuses, officials said Saturday.

Police shot dead three miners Friday night and two other miners were reported slain by strikers at Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mine, near Carltonville, 75 kilometres west of Johannesburg.

Meanwhile, thousands of black mourners gathered in black townships near Cape Town and Port Elizabeth for funerals for eight alleged black guerrillas killed in police shootouts.

In Port Elizabeth's New Brighton township, witnesses said police fired at least 20 tear gas canisters into a cinema, scattering thousands of people assembled for the traditional African all-night vigil for an alleged African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla.

Police banned the New Brighton service from taking place as planned in an outdoor stadium, and organisers moved the service to an Anglican Church.

The government imposed sweeping restrictions on the service for seven guerrillas in Guguletu township near Cape Town, banning political speeches and flags and placards. Only clergymen were given permission to speak, and television and photographic coverage was restricted.

Such funerals often become massive anti-apartheid rallies, and sometimes lead to violence between mourners and police patrols.

At Blyvooruitzicht, police headquarters in Pretoria said, arsonists caused extensive damage to mine buildings and property, and police and mine security fired tear gas, rubber bullets, shotguns and bullets, fatally wounding three miners.

The police report said seven more were wounded. But Greg Kukard, spokesman for the mine owner, Rand Mines Ltd., said about 100 blacks were wounded in the fighting, some of them hurt by other blacks.

Kukard also said two miners were killed by the rampaging mob as police tried to restore order.

The strike by the mine's 9,500 black miners, the latest in a series of strikes at gold mines, broke out last Sunday over a demand that a limited, experimental bonus pay system be extended to all workers.

## Sabah Muslim leader greeted with cheers

KOTA KINABALU, Malaysia (R) — Hundreds of cheering supporters greeted Sabah's main Muslim opposition leader when he returned to the Christian-ruled east Malaysian state and its political turmoil Saturday.

Tun Mustapha Harun flew in from Kuala Lumpur only hours after police announced the arrest of 633 illegal immigrants, said by political sources to be mainly from

the 100,000-strong Filipino Muslim community.

United Sabah National Organisation (USNO) supporters cried "Allahu Akbar" (God is Great) as Mustapha declared: "We have no other choice against those who have no respect for the process of law. Either we live or die. Come to the mosque."

Residents reported large numbers of police carrying M-16 automatic rifles, teargas, batons and shields at the state mosque as hundreds of people streamed towards it. Police also checked cars at barred-two-way roadblocks.

Two women were killed in an arson attack and four people were hurt in nine bomb blasts during the last three days as Mustapha's supporters stepped up efforts to oust the mainly Christian and non-Malay ruling party.

## Pakistan again rejects direct talks with Kabul

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Pakistan has told a United Nations mediator it still rejects direct peace talks with Afghanistan to end the seven-year war there, the government-owned Pakistan Times reported Saturday.

Quoting senior government officials, the daily said Pakistan told mediator Diego Cordovez that Kabul must set a timetable for a Soviet troops pullout before direct talks could take place.

Kabul says it has worked out a plan with Moscow to withdraw the troops, estimated in the west at 115,000, but will not reveal it until Islamabad agrees to direct talks.

Mr. Cordovez, who has been leading indirect peace talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan since 1982, was due to leave Kabul to continue his latest shuttle in search of a negotiated settlement.

Officials declined to confirm or deny the report but said the Pakistan Times reflected the views of the government, which refuses

direct talks because it does not recognise Kabul's Soviet-backed government.

The newspaper said Pakistan felt the troop pullout should be negotiated indirectly like the three other main issues in the proposed four-point peace package.

The two sides have already agreed on ways to end outside support for Muslim rebels fighting Kabul, guarantee the settlement and repatriate about 4.5 million refugees from Pakistan and Iran.

"Pakistan cannot think of direct talk unless the settlement package is negotiated and signed," the report quoted one senior official as saying.

Mr. Cordovez Friday met Foreign Ministry officials here and also conferred with the charge d'affaires of Iran, which does not take part in the talks because the rebels are not represented.

Western diplomats following the talks here said they felt Moscow's position had become more flexible in style in recent months but remained unchanged and uncompromising in substance.

"They say they want to bring their boys home, but it will have to be on their own terms," one senior envoy commented. "I don't think there will be a settlement soon no matter what they say."

Attorney General Edwin Meese will travel to a refugee camp near the Afghanistan border and deliver a message from President Ronald Reagan to Afghan rebels, his spokesman said Friday.

Mr. Meese's visit will come at the end of his trip to five countries, the spokesman said.

Mr. Meese's scheduled visit on March 26, to a camp near Afghanistan's Kunar Valley, will be made in the context that the rebels are the "keepers of the flame" of freedom in their 7-year-old guerrilla war against Soviet military forces, said the attorney general's spokesman, Terry Eastland.

The strategic Kunar Valley is the region where some 10,000 Soviet troops last June launched the biggest offensive in the guerrilla war.

nearby warily eyeing strangers.

In the Sheraton Hotel, where Mr. Shultz will stay, teams of bodyguards combed the rooms, installing emergency call buttons for use in case of threat or attack.

Traffic in the city centre ground to a halt by Friday lunchtime as police cordoned off streets. The problems were compounded by a peace parade by 10,000 students who marched past the corner where Mr. Palme was killed.

The spot where the 59-year-old prime minister fell on Sveavagen, one of Stockholm's busiest streets, attracts thousands of visitors each day.

A mound of thousands of red roses — the symbol of Mr. Palme's Social Democratic Party — placed on the pavement by mourners dominates the scene, their scent strong despite the freezing temperatures.

Security was tightened further as final preparations for the funeral were made. Vehicles left on the route to be taken by Mr. Palme's cortege were towed away by police and buildings were searched.

## Ecuadorean troops retake base, arrest rebel leader

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — An air force general who seized a military base and called for the president's replacement was under arrest Saturday after 2,000 troops retook the base in an assault that left four people dead and nine wounded.

The Friday assault on the Quito Air Base and the capture of Gen. Frank Vargas brought an end to his week-long confrontation with President Leon Febres Cordero, who had fired Gen. Vargas on March 7 for insubordination.

Press reports said the 51-year-old Vargas, who had also been joint armed forces chief until his dismissal, was found hiding inside the base commissary by loyalist troops who had stormed the facility.

The reports said Vargas wounded three soldiers when he fired a submachine gun while resisting arrest, but that Gen. Vargas quickly surrendered when ran out of bullets.

Officials had said earlier Friday that Gen. Vargas did not resist arrest.

Government spokesman Patricio Quevedo said four people were killed and nine wounded during the 90-minute assault to end "the new attempt at a coup."

Among the dead were two soldiers loyal to the government and two civilians slain in unclear circumstances.

Quevedo said. Two soldiers loyal to Gen. Vargas and seven government soldiers were also reported wounded.

Quevedo said some 2,000 troops backed by more than 20 tanks and armoured personnel carriers took part in the assault on the base. Gen. Vargas was found about six hours later, he said.

Government sources said Gen. Vargas, under arrest, was to be flown to an army outpost in the jungle near the Colombian border in eastern Ecuador.

Radio Quito also said government troops had taken about 400 prisoners, but there was no official confirmation.

Gen. Vargas took the base over Thursday night, claiming the government broke an agreement that led to his surrender Tuesday after he had barricaded himself inside another military base for five days.

When Gen. Vargas had surrendered at the Manta Air Base, south west of Quito, he agreed to stand military trial and remained there until troops supporting him released him Thursday night.

That night he took over the Mariscal Sucre Air Base in Quito, asked soldiers to support him and called for the president to be replaced by Vice President Blasco Penaherrera.

## U.S. deplores Chile's human rights record

GENEVA (Agencies) — A U.S.-backed resolution deploring killing, torture and kidnapping in Chile was adopted unanimously by the United Nations Human Rights Commission and the chief U.S. delegate said Washington had a "deep interest in peaceful change in Chile to democratic rule."

U.S. support for the resolution reversed a policy of opposing or abstaining from voting on commission resolutions condemning Chile so as to limit public criticism of the military government of Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

U.S. chief delegate Richard Schifter told the commission: "This goal of peaceful change (in Chile) is not a mirage. There are members of this commission who can justify from their own experiences that such change has taken place in their own homelands."

The Philippines, Argentina, Brazil and Spain are members of the commission.

Mr. Schifter told a news conference earlier this week that Washington had switched its stance on Chile's human rights record because private appeals had failed to influence the Pinochet government.

Mr. Schifter told the 43-member commission Friday the resolution contained a programme for defending human rights that was preferable to "denunciations that get us nowhere."

By approving it the U.N. body showed it was committed to peaceful change to democratic rule in Chile, he said.

The resolution was a compromise drafted by Commission Chairman Hector Charry Samper of Colombia after several days of consultations on a U.S. draft motion and another text tabled by Mexico rebuking Chile in harsher terms.

The commission approved the resolution on the last day of its annual six-week spring session.

The U.N.-mandated report by Costa Rican university Professor Fernando Volio lists allegations of killings, torture, beatings and abduction of suspected government opponents and other civilians in Chile, where the military deposed the Marxist coalition government of President Salvador Allende in 1973.

## City Hall turns into sealed fortress for Palme funeral

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) — Security has been tightened in and around Stockholm's City Hall on the eve of slain Prime Minister Olof Palme's funeral.

World leaders and other foreign dignitaries from nearly 100 countries, including U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov, are expected to attend the ceremony.

Swedish security officials found themselves guarding an assembly that included such diverse guests as South African Bishop Desmond Tutu, Lebanese Druse militia leader Walid Jumblatt and Greek Culture Minister Melina Mercouri.

About 1,500 policemen were mobilised in the largest security operation Sweden has seen, to guard primarily City Hall and the route to the downtown church where Mr. Palme will be buried.

City Hall was searched and inspected thoroughly by Swedish police as well as security agents from the American Secret Service, its Soviet counterpart, the Israeli Mossad intelligence service and other official foreign bodyguards.

The red-brick building's blue

hall will seat about 1,500 invited guests, nearly 600 of them foreign dignitaries.

Officials said Mr. Palme's white coffin will be placed before a large stone staircase under a giant United Nations flag. It will have an honour guard of four, bearing the Swedish flag and red labour movement banners.

The officials said all roads leading to City Hall would be closed to regular traffic before and during the funeral, with police on the lookout for anything suspicious.

The 90-minute ceremony will open with solemn orchestra music and hymns by a choir of 248 children from all countries of Sweden.

Following eulogies, the officials said, the funeral cortege will proceed from City Hall to Adolf Fredrik Church, for a private burial.

Foreign leaders will remain in City Hall, to hold informal talks or watch the motorcade on large TV screens, the officials said.

Normal life in the Swedish capital was virtually at a standstill. Private jets were still landing at Stockholm's Arlanda Airport early Saturday bringing late arrivals.

Mr. Shultz, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand were scheduled to fly in just a few hours before the 1300 GMT memorial service.

Stockholm was thrown into chaos Friday as speeding limousines carrying heads of state shuttled with police escorts between the airport and city hotels.

Helicopters equipped with monitor cameras patrolled over the city centre and hotel guests were frisked by armed police.

The tight security around hotels, ordered because police have not yet traced who shot Mr. Palme down two weeks ago, enabled some of the dignitaries to enjoy a relaxed atmosphere.